The New-York Times.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

Arrival of the Mississippi and George Washington.

Encouraging Prospects in Texas.

Gen. Washburn Moving Upon Indianola and Lavacca.

The Navigation of the Mississippi Less Interrupted.

THE FREE STATE CONVENTION.

The steamship *George Washington*, Capt. Gager, and *Mississippi*, Capt. Talbot, arrived here yesterday morning, bringing advices from New-Orleans to the 19th inst. The *Mississippi* brings a number of rebel prisoners, among whom are Maj.-Gen. Frank Gardner, commander of Port Hudson, and the following officers: Aid-de-Camp Alex. Dupree, Col. J. A. Jaquess, Lieut.-Col. M. I. Smith, all of Port Hudson; Capt. J. J. Slocum, Ninth Louisiana cavalry; Capt. Matcemp, Ninth Louisiana cavalry; Capt. J. C. Patterson, Twenty-third Arkansas; H. L. W. Johnson, Fourteenth Arkansas; Lieut. W. B. Burnett, Twelfth Arkansas; J. W. Geer, Tenth Arkansas; J. K. Milan, Seventeenth Arkansas.

The *George Washington* brought $100,000 in gold.

PASSENGERS.

Col. T. R. Perlee, Capt. Walker, Capt. Braham, Capt. Getrau, Capts. Cushing, Young, Eggleston, Backford, Ferree, Keuner, Andrews, Lieuts. Davis, Vernall, Perry and Cunningham, Lieut. Tilsans, J. H. Hammer, C. H. Hamilton, C. H. Stone, Mr. Plunkett, Lieut. D. H. Niver, (the above six were formerly officers of the *Harriet Lane*,) Mr. Havemeyer, A. Schruber, Maj. W. White, C. A. Beach, Thos. Reed, Lieuts. Russell, Sawyer, Nickerson, Crosby, Brooks, Wells, Washburne.

OUR NEW-ORLEANS CORRESPONDENCE.

The Free State Convention—Movements in Texas—The River, &c., &c.

New-Orleans, Friday, Dec. 18.

At a late Convention here of Free State men, called for the purpose of choosing unconditional Union men to the Convention of the Union men of the Slave States, to be held at Louisville, Ky., a delegation of colored men were admitted to seats in the Convention, and the Convention was opened with prayer by a colored minister.

Hon. Mr. Durant presided.

An adjourned meeting of the Convention will be held on the 21st inst., at which an effort will be made to have the Convention held in New-Orleans.

The navigation of the Mississippi River is less interrupted. The gunboats are keeping a sharp lookout. A party from the Twenty-ninth Illinois regiment scouted as far as Trinity on the Black River and captured 39 prisoners.

Acting Masters Hamilton and Hannin and Second Assistant Engineers Stone and Plunkett, captured with the *Harriet Lane*, have arrived here on parole.

Maunsel White, an old and much respected citizen of New-Orleans, died yesterday in his 80th year.

Advices from Texas state that Gen. Washburne, with a considerable body of troops, had started for Indianola and Lavacca. Both places are doubtless in our possession ere this. Our troops are in the best of health and spirits. Great numbers of Texans rejoiced in the prospect of an early redemption of the State. It was believed that San Antonio would soon be under the old flag, where our troops would concentrate for the overthrow of the rebels under Gen. Magruder.

Gen. Ullman is in New-Orleans on a visit.

The Eighth New-Hampshire regiment has been changed into cavalry, and is now known as the First New-Hampshire cavalry.

The sales of cotton for the week add up 2,000 bales, closing at 71c.@72c. for Middling. Sugar steady; sales, 3,260 bbls. for the week; fair to fully fair, new crop, 10½c.@11½c. Molasses, 1c. higher; sales, 4,600 bbls. prime to choice at 52c.@55c.

Arrived 13th instant, Ships *President Fillmore*, *R. C. Winthrop*, and *Uncle Joe*, from New York; barks *Conquest* and *John Winthrop*, from Boston; *H. D. Brookman*, from New-York; brigs *Geo. Burnham*, from Boston; *Welsh*, from Philadelphia; 15th, ship *Old Dominion*, from Boston barks *Mustang* from New-York, *Laura Ross*, *Leroy* and *Cephas Starret*, from Philadelphia; brigs *Imogene* and *Ida M. Connery*, from Philadelphia; *Elizabeth*, from Kennebunk; *Jessie Rhynas*, from Boston; 17th, ship *John and Albert* from Boston; bark *Sachem*, from Boston; 18th, brig *Rival* from Philadelphia.

Below, barks *Investigator* from New-York, and *Old Hickory*.

FROM TEXAS.

From the New-Orleans Times, Dec. 18.

The United States transport *Clinton* came into port yesterday from Pass Caballo, Texas. She had as passengers, some Texan refugees, from whom we learn the following important intelligence:

A considerable body of our troops under Gen. Washburne, had started for Indianola and Lavacca.

Both points, our informants feel sure, are in our possession by this time.

The men under Gen. Washburne were in the best of health and spirits.

Great numbers of Texans were delighted with the success of the National arms, and rejoiced at the prospect of an early redemption of the State, at least, from the tyranny of the rebels.

An intelligent gentleman who came on the *Clinton*, informs us that it was believed San Antonio, too, would soon be under the old flag, at which place our troops would concentrate for the overthrow of the forces under Magruder.

The news is cheering, and shows conclusively that the whole of Western Texas will soon be in our possession.

MATTERS AT BROWNSVILLE.

Correspondence of the New-Orleans Era.

Brownsville, Tuesday, Dec. 8, 1863.

With the appearance of the troops here, confidence returns to all loyal Americans and to the Mexican authorities and people. Order is restored, honesty appreciated, and villainy punished.

The abandoned houses, which include nearly all in the town, are occupied. The country for one hundred miles back and to above Roma, about two hundred miles up the river, is visited by our scouts, and rebel property, wherever found, taken into our possession. Three steamers belonging to rebel owners, but covered by sham sale to a Mexican citizen, were secured by negotiation, and are now in Government employ, where it is hoped they will remain.

COL. DAVIS TAKES A SHORT TRIP INTO THE INTERIOR.

Col. Davis, of the First Texas Cavalry, returned from up the river two days since. A large number of mules, horses and beeves returned with him, having entered the United States service at various rebel ranchos on the route. These patriotic animals came in laden with forage for "future usefulness." A large lot of cloth, of significant gray color, and also considerable cotton, were taken. This is merely a "forced loan" from the unsettled estate of the "C. S. A." "King Cotton," when liberated, is as proud as ever, but he is "sadly out at the elbows."

DEPARTURE OF GEN. BANKS.

The departure of Gen. Banks was much regretted, but it is not much felt, as the command is efficiently controlled by his able representative, Maj. Gen. Dana, who is, "in all good word and work diligent in season and out of season."

WHY THE REBELS DISLIKE GEN. DANA.

He is not at all liked by some of our "deluded Southern brethren," who call him another "Beast Butler."

It is true the General has "made war on women and children," by requiring a too flippant rebel lady to take the oath. He has refused to discuss the rights of a violent rebel, who desires to live here in the prosecution of his business without swearing allegiance. He has returned a present, with the caustic reply that, coming from a traitor, the bribe for favor was too small to purchase a general officer of the United States; and he has fined an officious meddler of "itinerant politics"—for what offence is not known, as on the same day the man advised a party to refuse the national currency, got drunk, insulted our courteous Provost-Marshal, Capt. Altman, and was kicked out of doors by Capt. Speed, of the First Texas cavalry. It is presumed he was fined for getting kicked—while retreating.

GOV. HAMILTON.

The arrival of Gen. A. J. Hamilton, Military Governor of Texas, gives joy and spirit to the army and enthusiasm to every Texan. He is not merely popular; he is viewed with enthusiasm and attachment by the people of this State who are loyal.

COURTESIES TO GOV. SERNA.

Gov. Hamilton and his Staff officers visited Gov. Serna, of Tamaulipas, at Matamoras, three days since, upon invitation, as Gens. Banks and Dana had done a few days before, and were received as they were, with a salute of fifty guns and handsomely entertained by the Governor at his house. Gov. Serna welcomed Gov. Hamilton in a speech, to which Gov. Hamilton replied.

ALONG THE RIVER.

From the New-Orleans Times, Dec. 17.

Our information from above, on the Mississippi River, is up to Tuesday last. The condition of affairs has considerably improved within the past week, and the prospects are that our steamers can navigate the great stream in future undisturbed.

Not a single guerrilla has shown himself at Waterproof for some time past, and no indication that there are any in the neighborhood are visible.

Peace has been restored about Natchez, the rebels apparently having obtained sufficient "satisfaction" in their assault of the 6th inst., to last them for quite a lengthy period. Gen. Gresham's cavalry is scouring the entire country round about Natchez, and strict order and quiet are preserved.

Last Monday a reconnoitering party returned to Vidalia, and were ferried over the Mississippi to Natchez. They had penetrated as far into the interior as Trinity, on Black River, where they surprised and captured thirty-nine prisoners. The scouting party consisted of a portion of the Twenty-ninth Illinois regiment, mounted infantry, and were commanded by Col. Fry.

Since the firing on the *Henry Von Phul* all boats have passed up and down unmolested, and not a sign of an enemy is to be seen in the vicinity of Morganza Bend. A gunboat is stationed within easy reach of the point where the batteries were formerly located, and the prospect of a shot for a shot, and a shell for a shell, seems to have destroyed the taste of the chivalry who manned them for their humane and Christian-like employment.

At the mouth of Red River a large fleet of gunboats have been assembled, and as there is now a depth of nine feet of water on the bar at that place, it is probable that we shall soon hear of these boats having ascended the Red and Ouachita Rivers, doing all the damage to the enemy in their power.

The following is from the *Courier* of the 19th inst:

"We are informed that fifty-one Confederate soldiers, prisoners of war, left Natchez for Vicksburgh last Sunday.

Some forty or forty-two prisoners from the Confederate army were brought to Natchez last week, from Louisiana. Twenty-eight Confederates, we are told, have lately joined the Federal cavalry in this city.

The Mississippi River at Natchez is rising considerably. The sand-bars, opposite, are fast disappearing. Steamboat arrivals, for three days past, have been as brisk as formerly.

The steamer *Brazil*, a dispatch boat located at this point, was fired into near Waterproof last week, not injuring the boat much, but killing a lady on board, wounding her husband severely, killing the chambermaid of the boat, and wounding others. We did not learn the names of the parties who suffered.

OBITUARY.

DEATH OF COL. MAUNSEL WHITE.

From the New-Orleans Picayune, Dec. 17.

We are pained to learn of the death of this eminent and highly honored citizen of our State. Col. White departed this life yesterday, about 1 o'clock, at the residence of his son-in-law, Carl Kohn, Esq., at the advanced age of 82 years. He arrived in this city from Kentucky, where he had temporarily resided, about the year 1802. Entering into commercial pursuits, he was eminently successful.

In 1814, when the city of his residence was threatened by the invader, he volunteered in its defence; and as Captain of the Louisiana Blues, in Plauche's battalion of volunteers, contributed in no small degree to the glorious success with which that defence was made. He leaves but one survivor now living of that company, in the person of Gen. H. W. Palfrey.

After the war of 1812, he entered into business with our old fellow-citizen, Edward Chapman, Esq., in which he continued till after the year 1825. Subsequently he engaged in agricultural pursuits in the parish of Plaquemines, on his plantation known as Deer Range, which he cultivated with great success during the last quarter of a century.

Col. White was a man of excellent judgment, of great purity and singleness of character, of unspotted integrity, and ardent patriotism, and was for this reason frequently called by his fellow-citizens to represent them in the legislative councils of the State, in which he gave most valuable assistance.

He was a native of Ireland; coming to this State in early life, he became fully identified with it, both in interest and in feeling. He lived to the ripe old age of eighty-two, and leaves a large family to mourn with the community the loss of one of its most respected and venerated citizens.

Col. White was connected by marriage with the family of the late Gen. De Labonde.

THE MARKETS.

Office of the Picayune,
Friday Evening, Dec. 18, 1863.

Cotton—The market opened with a fair inquiry this morning, which was subsequently checked by the later accounts from New-York, but still the sales were to a fair extent, amounting in the aggregate to some 400 bales, embracing 23 Low Middling—before the news—at 70c.; 26 Middling—also before the news—at 72c.; 64 Strictly Middling—after the news—said to be at the same. Another lot, of which we did not get the particulars, and 208 bales at auction—after the news—as follows: 1 bale Pickings, at 30c.; 19 bales do., at 34c.; 4 Repacked, at 51⅜c.; 1 bale Samples, Good Ordinary, at 59¾c.; 4 bales country Repacked, at 60c.; 2 Low Ordinary, including 1 bale reboxed, at the same, 4 Samples, Low Middling, at 62¼c.; 9 Strictly Ordinary, at 63⅜c.; 11 do., at 64¼c.; 3 Good Ordinary, including 1 bale reboxed, at 64½c.; 2 Samples, Low Middling, at 64¾c.; 2 country repacked, at 65c.; 24 do., bid in at the same; 10 Good Ordinary, at 67c.; 2 do., at 66¾c.; 7 do., including 3 reboxed, at 67¼c.; 10 Good Ordinary, at the same; 15 reboxed, Low Middling, at 65½c.; 17 Strictly Good Ordinary, at 67⅞c.; 9 do., at 67¾c.; 1 bale Low Middling, at 68¼c.; 6 bales Strictly Good Ordinary, at 68½c.; 14 Low Middling, 10 and 4, at 69c.; 12 Middling and 1 Low Middling, stained, at 69¾c. round; 6 Middling, at 70¾c.; 1 Strictly Middling, at 72⅜c., 1 Good Middling, at 73¼c.; and 10 do., at 73½c. Also, late in the day, yesterday, 87 bales Low Middling, at 68c.

Sugar—The brisk inquiry noticed during the past week has prevailed to-day, but the receipts being light the sales were confined to 400 hhds.—leaving very little in first hands—at previous prices. Good common new crop 10c.@10½c., fully fair, 11¼c., and prime 11¾c.; good common old crop 10⅜c., and good fair to fully fair 11⅝c. ℘ ℔.

Molasses—The demand is good and the receipts meet with ready sale at firm prices. About 400 bbls., all in first hands, sold to-day at 50c. for common, 53c. @53½c. for prime, and 54c. for choice. By auction, 50 bbls. sold at 50½c. ℘ gallon.

FROM HAVANA AND NASSAU, N. P.

Arrival of the Corsica.

The British steamship *Corsica*, from Havana 19th, and Nassau 21st, arrived at this port yesterday afternoon.

The Purser reports as follows:

"On the 10th instant, on our way from New-York to Nassau, when near Abaco, was brought to by a United States cruiser, supposed to be the *Rhode Island*—detention 1½ hours. On the 23d, lat. 39° lon. 76°, was brought to by United States gunboat *Itasca*—detention 70 hours. Steamship *Evening Star* arrived at Havana on the 19th inst., at 9 A. M., and sailed same day, at 1 P. M., for New-Orleans. On the 23d and 24th insts., when off Hatteras, experienced heavy northerly gales."

A large fire has occurred at Matanzas, destroying one store and three or four dwelling-houses. Loss, probably $70,000. The houses are insured in a foreign (British) office.

The health of Havana was good. No local news of consequence, save the attempt of a father to murder his wife, children, &c.

There was nothing new at Nassau. From the 1st of December to the 19th, twenty steam blockade-runners had arrived at and departed from Nassau. Most of them to or from Wilmington.

Schooner Charles M. Neal Wrecked.

Fortress Monroe, Saturday, Dec. 26.

The schooner *David Smith*, from Philadelphia, has arrived here. She reports that the schooner *Charles M. Neal*, which went ashore on Thursday night, near Wrecker's Island, has gone to pieces. The crew have not as yet been heard from, but they probably escaped to the mainland.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.

Execution of Joseph Lane, alias John Kendall, alias Thomas, for Desertion, on Morris Island, S. C.

Correspondence of the New-York Times:

Morris Island, S. C., Friday, Dec. 18, 1863.

Joseph Lane, of the Third New-Hampshire Volunteers, was executed here to-day for attempted desertion. This is the third military execution which has taken place in this department, and the thrilling scene was witnessed by the entire command on this Island. The story of Lane has somewhat of romance in it. He deserted from his regiment, the Third New-Hampshire Volunteers, in which regiment he enlisted at Concord, on the night of the 29th of November, and on the morning of the 30th came into our picket lines on Black Island, between Morris and James Islands, claiming to be a deserter from the rebel battery "Simpkins" on James Island. He had divested himself of all his clothing which could be recognized, and had on when he came in only his boots and shirt. He had found it impossible to cross the marshes and river dividing our lines from the rebels, and had concocted a story of his desertion and of suffering in the rebel army, which, though ingenious, was too transparent to deceive. A member of the Third New-Hampshire Volunteers passing the tent in which he was confined, recognized him. The story soon spread as to who he was, and upward of one hundred officers and men identified him as the man who had been missing from his regiment. He persisted in denying that he ever had any connection with the regiment to which it was alleged that he belonged, or to any other in the United States service; but the evidence was overwhelming, and on a Court-martial being held, he was duly convicted of desertion and sentenced to suffer death—the punishment for that most serious of military crimes. He still persisted in asserting his innocence, and declared that, if shot, he would die as a martyr, and not as a criminal.

To-day at 3½ o'clock, an unusual commotion began—men in groups here and there, troops gathering on the beach and moving on to form the line down which the unfortunate man was to pass. At about 4 o'clock, from the further end of the line, a solemn assembly was seen approaching, headed by Capt. Randlett, Provost-Marshal of Morris Island, on whom the unpleasant duty of carrying out the execution fell. Following him, was the band, with muffled drums, playing the "Dead March in Saul," and then the (firing) detachment to whom was assigned the still more unpleasant duty of launching a fellow-being into eternity. Next came the two Chaplains who had earnestly endeavored to fit the condemned man for the final dissolution of soul and body. Then followed the poor fellow himself in an ambulance, seated on his own coffin. The ambulance was surrounded by a guard, and following it was the reserve for finishing the work of death in case the first detachment failed. The procession slowly advanced down the entire line and passed midway up between them and the sea, and came to a halt. After a few preliminary preparations, the coffin was placed on the beach, the doomed man knelt upon it, and made a few remarks, still persisting in asserting his innocence. Taking Capt. Randlett by the hand, he simply said, "We will meet in Heaven." His last words were, "I die an Englishman," for England was his birthplace. The bandage was placed on his eyes, the men assigned for performing the execution took their place, and the silent command by the wave of the sword was given to "fire;" at almost the same instant he fell forward over his coffin, supporting himself by his arms; a short struggle and he fell face downward in the wet sand, a bleeding corpse. The body was lifted up and placed on the coffin, his arm thrown over his chest, as it was in his death-struggle, his breast was bared, showing the frightful work of those little messengers of death; and while thus exposed to full view, the entire command was marched past him. (Nine bullets entered his breast, one struck his right arm, one missed, and one had a blank cartridge.) When all this was done, the body was removed from the coffin, the lid taken off, and the corpse placed inside. The coffin was replaced in the ambulance and driven off; not as before, with a living man, but with a livid corpse. The following seems to be all that is known of the man: Joseph Lane he affirmed to be his real name; he enlisted under the name of John Kendall; he was of English descent, being a scapegrace son of a respectable family. He joined the British navy, from which he deserted, taking his mother's maiden name—Thomas—on account of a tradition, which is believed by many, that if he assumed that name there was no fear of detection. He was about 25 years of age, about 5 feet 7½ inches in height, and of light complexion, though sunburnt.

SALTPETRE.

Gen. Burnside's Work in East Tennessee.

From the Cincinnati Commercial, Dec. 19.

Maj.-Gen. Burnside and Staff left Knoxville on the 12th, and arrived in this city yesterday about noon They had a severe journey through the mountains but made good time. The General received a salute upon landing at the Covington depot from a squad of artillery detailed from Newport barracks.

The appearance of Gen. Burnside is that of robust health. The illness from which he is reported to have suffered since the siege of Knoxville was raised, was a slight attack of rheumatism. The General's opinion is that the rumors of reverses in East Tennessee, and of the resumption of a menacing attitude by Longstreet, have very little foundation in fact. Gen. Longstreet and army retired from in front of Knoxville sorely troubled in mind and body, and lost largely, as reported, in deserters and stragglers, and siege guns abandoned. The enemy is in no position to undertake an offensive campaign, and the Federal force in East Tennessee is much larger than Gen. Burnside had there. The newspaper reports of the siege of Knoxville have been full and accurate.

Gen. Burnside has not resigned his commission. He tendered his resignation, and it was not accepted. He was relieved of the command of his department and ordered to report at Washington, which he is proceeding to do promptly, leaving for that city on the 10 o'clock train last night.

It is understood, among those having means of being well informed, that the difficulties that have resulted in the relief of Gen. Burnside from command in the Department of the Ohio, took their rise in something resembling incompatibility of temper, between Gen. Burnside and Gen. Halleck. Those who have read the last report of the General-in-Chief are that its *animus* toward Gen. Burnside is not friendly.

The military management of Gen. Burnside, during his stay in the West, has been marked by several distinguished successes, and no material reverse. John Morgan visited his department, on one of his favorite raids, and with his whole force, horse and rider, and artillery, was gobbled.

Kentucky has enjoyed a season of peace and quiet. The Ninth army corps was detached to reinforce Gen. Grant, before Vicksburgh, and after the surrender of Pemberton, made the march with Sherman to Jackson. Returning, it took part in the movement into East Tennessee, which was made with such promptness as to surprise both friends and foes. Few severer blows have been given the rebellion than that of the sudden occupation of East Tennessee by the Army of the Ohio. With such celerity and skill were our troops handled, that but one life was lost in possessing East Tennessee; and a whole brigade of rebels, under Gen. Frazer, with several batteries of artillery, were captured at Cumberland Gap without the firing of a gun. In the cavalry skirmishing in East Tennessee, we are at least even with the rebels, and Gen. Burnside's name will always be conspicuous in the honorable record made by the Army of the Ohio in the fight with Longstreet at Campbell's Station, the bloody repulse of the best division of troops in the rebel army, at Fort Sanders, and the steady and glorious defense of Knoxville.

Gen. Longstreet's loss during his operations commencing at Loudon, up to the time he had reached Rogersville, was not less than five thousand men and nine pieces of artillery. Our loss during the same period does not exceed, and hardly equals, fifteen hundred. It was the expectation of the rebels, when Longstreet was detached from Bragg's army, with a force greatly superior in number to that which Gen. Burnside commanded (the country would be startled if the numerical superiority of the rebel force were made known,) that they would be able to "occupy and possess" East Tennessee speedily, and take the Army of Ohio, with all its artillery and trains. Their total defeat is one of the most important results of the war. While Longstreet was baffled and lingering before Knoxville, Bragg's army was whipped, and Jeff. Davis' programme for driving the Yankees out of Tennessee was at an end. Certainly no small share of the credit belongs to Gen. Burnside and his gallant army.

Death of Prof. Chew.

Baltimore, Saturday, Dec. 26.

Prof. Samuel Chew, of the Maryland University, died at his residence in this city yesterday.

FROM SOUTH AMERICA

Actual War Between Ecuador and Colombia.

The Republic of Colombia Invaded and a Garrison Captured.

President Mosquera Concentrating His Forces for Resistance.

AFFAIRS IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

Arrival of Ex-President Barrios in this City.

The steamship *Atlantic*, Maury, from Aspinwall, Dec. 16, arrived at this port last evening. She brings a large amount of freight and His Excellency Ex-President Barrios and lady, of San Salvador, as passengers. She brings no treasure. The steamship *North Star* would sail for New-York, Dec. 17.

UNITED STATES OF COLOMBIA.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Panama, Wednesday, Dec. 16, 1863.

Two schooners and three launches, with twelve guns and five hundred men, from Guayaquil, Ecuador, entered the port of Tumaco, in our neighboring State of Cauca, in this Republic, on the 7th instant, and took possession of it without resistance on the part of the small garrison left there by Gen. Mosquera. Some of the principal inhabitants fled on the approach of the fleet, and three or four have reached Panama. We had a report by previous steamer that the Government of Ecuador were preparing to take this hostile step, but no credit was given it.

On the 22d November, Gen. Flores, commanding the Ecuadorian army, issued a proclamation, the larger portion of it taken up with personal abuse of Gen. Mosquera, but the gist of which was that he found himself compelled, by the hostile and threatening attitude of the latter, to cross the frontier of the Colombia, and to make war on her. This proclamation was followed by an immediate movement. He crossed the river Carchi, at the head of 6,000 men, and established his headquarters in Tuquerres. He says he shall advance at once on Pasto, and attack Mosquera there. If he does, he will probably come to grief. Mosquera's little force near the frontier had already grown to 4,000 or 5,000 men. Beside these, 2,500 men are marching from Cali, in Cauca, to join him. Gen. Sanchez has 2,000 men in Popayan, the Capital of the State; and Gens. Gutierrez and Lopez, on their way to Cauca, will take a considerable force with them from the States of Cundinamarca and Tolima. It will be but a short time before Mosquera will have 10,000 men in the field, and then, unless he gets "a fire in the rear" from his conservative enemies at home, which is not probable, he will march on Quito, and settle the little affairs of Ecuador to his liking. Mosquera has lately borrowed 800,000 hard dollars in London, which is quite a "big thing" in these latitudes, and it will give him great weight against such an impoverished country as Ecuador. By the last steamer from Carthagena to Aspinwall, I learn that the whole Republic will favor the war against Ecuador, and the feeling for war will be much greater when the people on the Caribbean and Magdalena learn the facts of the invasion of our territory.

By dates from Quito, up to Nov. 24, we learn that Mosquera's troops on the frontier had had several skirmishes with guerrillas, who were headed by Colombians, and had captured some of their chiefs—among them an officer named Lopez, whom he shot.

For the information of the many travelers from New-York for the South Pacific, via the Isthmus of Panama, I will state that the Royal West India Mail Steam Packet Company and the Pacific Steam Navigation Company have made the following important changes in the dates of arrival and departure of their respective steamers to and from Panama and Aspinwall, to commence with the second steamer in January next: The steamer from the South will arrive at Panama on the 4th (or 5th, when the previous month has only 30 days,) and on the 20th of each month; and the corresponding steamer for Europe will sail from Aspinwall on the following day, viz., the 5th, (or 6th,) and on the 21st, at about 6 P. M. The steamer from Europe will arrive at Aspinwall on the 7th (or 8th, when the previous month has only 30 days,) and on the 23d of each month, at about 7 P. M., and the corresponding steamer for the South will sail from Panama on the second day after, viz., on the 9th (or 10th) and on the 25th. The service from Aspinwall to Blewfields and the Belize will be discontinued on the 1st of January.

The "commercial tax" or assessments on the sales of the merchants and traders of the City of Panama, for the support of the State Government, have been increased from $38,000 to $57,000 per year. Aspinwall will have to pay $17,000 instead of $10,000.

The Panama Railroad Company's fine steamship *Atlantic* landed her 1,000 tons of goods in season for the Pacific Mail Company's *Constitution*, and the latter left for San Francisco with nearly 2,000 tons measurement of goods on Sunday, the 13th. The *Constitution* brought down $200,000 worth of goods for New-York, most of which goes forward in the *Atlantic* to-day. Of this there are 449 bales wool, valued at $50,333 60; 224 bales whalebone, $30,668; 9 bales deer skins, $1,044. The balance consists of teas, &c., making a freight home for the *Atlantic* of over 400 tons measurement. The Company's brig *Caroline* also goes to New-York full of California and Central American freight. A year ago all ships from Aspinwall to New-York went home in ballast.

By the *North Star* we had some new arrivals of gentlemen, who go to Nicaragua to arrange transit matters. Among them were J. C. Woods, Esq., formerly of San Francisco; Samuel Ward, Esq., who went to Paraguay with Mr. Buchanan's war fleet; Henry M. Reed, Esq., who has before been in Nicaragua, and Mr. Hall, of New-York, and others whose names I did not learn. Mr. Woods and party take out a transit contract for ratification by the Congress of Nicaragua made with Senor Molina, Nicaraguan Minister at Washington. The company agree to open a good road for transit of passengers and freight in six months, and to build a railroad, twelve miles between Virgin Bay, Lake Nicaragua and the Pacific, in six years. They do not agree to deepen the harbor at Greytown, on the river San Juan, but convene to expend a certain sum per year on them. For the privilege of the transit they agree to pay Nicaragua from $26,000 to $35,000 a year.

The propellers *Crusader* and *St. Thomas*, from Liverpool, are in the port of Aspinwall, discharging and taking in freight.

Gen. Barrios and wife go to New-York to-day on the steamship *Atlantic* as guests of the P. R. R. Co.

CENTRAL AMERICA.

Panama, Wednesday, Dec. 16, 1863.

The Panama Railroad Company's steamship *Salvador*, Commander Bowditch, arrived at Panama, from Central American ports, on the 11th inst. Her dates from San Jose de Guatemala are to the 1st, from Salvador to the 6th, Nicaragua to the 7th and Costa Rica to the 8th inst.

HONDURAS.

The Presidential election to fill the place of Gen. Guardiola, who was assassinated a couple of years since, has resulted, it is reported, in favor of Gen. Xatruch. The General is now in San Miguel, Salvador, at the head of the Nicaraguan force, sent there to aid President Carrera, of Guatemala, to drive out President Barrios. Gen. Xatruch, it will be recollected, bore a conspicuous part in the war in Nicaragua, against Gen. Walker and his fillibusters. After the death of Guardiola, the office of President of Honduras was assumed by Senator Medina, who was the opposing candidate for the regular succession of Gen. Xatruch. Medina, as soon as he learned that he was defeated, retired to Gracias, where he summoned Congress to meet in February, in the hope, it is supposed, that that body will declare him elected. Considerable excitement existed in the Republic in consequence of this state of affairs. In case Medina should be found intractable, Gen. Xatruch will probably rely upon Presidents Carrera and Martinez, of Guatemala and Nicaragua, for assistance.

The Indians were working the gold mines of Olancho with considerable success, and the silver mines also pay for working.

GUATEMALA AND SALVADOR.

A good deal of ill-feeling existed among the officers of Guatemala and Salvador against the United States Minister, Mr. Partridge, Consul Livingston, and the British Chargè, on account of their connivance at the escape of Gen. Barrios and Col. Lasala, and threats were freely indulged in. In view of the fact, however, that the United States gunboat *Saginaw* was hovering about La Union, Salvador, and that the Panama Company's steamer, *Salvador*, was well armed and ready to protect these officers, the authorities thought better of the matter and let it drop. Commandante Castro, who harassed the *Salvador* so much on her previous voyage, was removed, at the demand of Com. Hopkins, of the *Saginaw*, and that vessel has left for Acapulco.

President Carrera, with his army of invasion, left San Salvador for Guatemala on the 15th of November. Señor Duenas, formerly President of Salvador, was left in the Executive chair. Salvador was quiet, but, probably, will not remain so long, as Gen. Barrios has many busy and powerful friends there, and has issued a proclamation to the people, promising, or rather threatening, to return at an early day. The houses and other buildings destroyed in the city of San Salvador, by the bombardment, were to be rebuilt immediately. Duenas seems anxious to conciliate the people, but the task before him is not an easy one. The Indians of Cojutepeque were not retained in service after the siege was finished, and were committing some disorders in their villages in consequence, but the President, with two of his ministers and the Bishop, had visited and quieted them.

It was generally supposed that on account of the war but little business would be done at the annual indigo fair at San Miguel. But this proved to be a mistake. The attendance was not only as large as usual, but goods of all kinds brought good prices. The best numbers of indigo brought nine rials per pound, which was considered high.

Mr. Henry Segur had been superseded at Washington as Minister of Salvador by A. J. de Irisarri.

NICARAGUA AND COSTA RICA.

These two States were quiet, In Nicaragua the high prices of cotton had stimulated its cultivation, and some estimate the value of the crop that will be shipped the coming season at two millions of dollars. But all reports from Nicaragua are subject to considerable modification, and a large margin for discount must be given to this one.

Nicaragua is full of steamship and transit agents from New-York, each one pretending to have the ear of the President and Congress, and more are on their way to the scene of action. In the meantime, the harbor at Greytown gets more shallow every day, and the San Juan River follows suit. Mons. Loos has not yet completed his ship canal across the country, but says he shall have it in full blast in five years at the furthest.

Gen. Martinez had transferred the seat of Government from Managua to Leon.

COSTA RICA.

The Congress of Costa Rica had voted $10,000 to Señor Molina, Minister to Washington, for meritorious services. Flour and other grains have been exempted from duties.

Congress has authorized the opening of a road from San Jose to the Atlantic. It has appropriated $25,000 for the surveys, and authorized a loan of $1,000,000 in Europe to build it, the loan to be liquidated in 30 years, out of the proceeds of the road and Custom dues. A bill for legalizing Protestant marriages is also under consideration, and will pass.

The coffee crop will be large this year. The gathering would be commenced in a few days.

The Russian Admiral's Visit to Gen. Butler.

Fortress Monroe, Saturday, Dec. 26.

The Russian Admiral and seven Captains of his fleet waited upon Maj.-Gen. Butler to-day. They were received at the wharf by Capt. A. F. Puffer, of the General's Staff, and escorted to the General's residence, where they were formally received by himself and staff.

The General briefly welcomed them and offered them every facility in his power to make their stay here pleasant. In reply thereto the Admiral stated that he should not Winter here, as he had intended, but should send part of his fleet to Annapolis to Winter, while he made a trip to the West Indies and returned.

Upon the Admiral's return to his flagship a national salute was fired from the water-batteries of the fort.

Vessels reported as having arrived here windbound, from the 21st to the 25th inst., sailed to-day.

The Scare at Calais and Eastport, Me.

Boston, Saturday, Dec. 26.

The St. Croix *Herald*, published at Calais, near the borders of New-Brunswick, states that much excitement exists there, in consequence of apprehensions of a contemplated raid by rebel agents and roughs from the vicinity of St. John.

The citizens of Calais and Eastport have formed themselves into Home Guards, obtained arms and ammunition, and hold themselves in readiness for any raid that may be attempted.

Interesting to Recruits.

Albany, Saturday, Dec. 26.

The Governor has been notified that a law has been passed to the effect that no United States bounties, except such as are now provided by law, will be paid to any person enlisted after the 5th of January. The only bounty provided by law is the one hundred dollars authorized by act of Congress. Bounties will be paid in accordance with existing orders to recruits who enlist before Jan. 5, inclusive, for any three-years' organization in service or authorized by the War Department and in process of completion.

Important Expedition from Beaufort, S. C.

Boston, Saturday, Dec. 26.

The *Traveller*, of this city, has a letter from Beaufort, S. C., dated the 22d inst., which says:

"An expedition is about starting, all in a hurry and uncertainty. No one knows its destination—but the fact that it is to be commanded by Gen. Seymour, indicates that it is of importance, for he is a fighting man. The order to strike tents was given at 6 o'clock, and at 10 o'clock they were off."

THE GREAT PRIZE FIGHT.

Critical Accounts from the English Press.

The latest English papers publish full critical accounts of this affair. We reproduce some of the most interesting extracts:

A LITERARY REVIEW.

From the Saturday Review, Dec. 12.

By way of explanation of the course which the fight took, it may be useful to state that Heenan, instead of improving as a fighter since his battle with Sayers, appears to have fallen off in that essential part of the business—the use of his hands. He is a very skillful wrestler, and upon that talent and his great strength he depended mainly for success. In fighting with a smaller man, like Sayers, the command which his length of reach would give him would partially conceal his want of skill. But as soon as he began to fight King, a man of his own size, the deficiency became strikingly apparent. In King he had to deal with a good two-handed fighter and a terrific hitter. It was said before this day that Heenan was good with his left hand, although he could do but little with his right, but now he was bad with both. It is almost wonderful that such an unskillful boxer should have attained so high a reputation in two continents. Looking at his performance against King, it does seem, after all, as if Sayers had had a very good chance of beating him. But he was evidently full of confidence that he knew enough to do for King. He caught King's neck under his arm, in the first round, and "hugged" him as if he meant to break his neck and kill him on the spot. King was very much the worse for this first round, and the confidence of his backers fell almost to zero. The "hug" was repeated in other rounds, but not with the same intensity. Heenan came up after every round prompt and smiling, caring little for the punishment he received, and never doubting that he was going to win the battle out of hand. The power which he displayed in wrestling was tremendous. Again and again he lifted King fairly off his legs, whirling him through the arc of a circle in the air, and dashing him with shattering force upon the ground. Often he fell upon him. Once he sent him such a spin that King's foot caught his second, Jerry Noon, in the back, and hit him a hardish blow. It is no exaggeration to say that Heenan flung hither and thither a man within a stone as heavy as himself as if he had been a child. Such giant's play as that has been very rarely seen either in the prize-ring or elsewhere. But wonderful as was Heenan's strength to do, King's strength to suffer was yet more wonderful. He seemed to be nearly killed by the "hug" in the first round, but he recovered from that shock, and repeatedly after being thrown and getting Heenan's weight upon him, he came to the call of time—not so promptly or encouraging to his backers as Heenan, but still he was there and ready to go on. All this time, too, King was steadily trying whether a boxing match could be won by the use of the fists. He drew "first blood" copiously; he knocked out a tooth of Heenan; he cut his lip deeply, and left fearful marks of his handiwork behind the ear and beneath the eye. But Heenan did not seem to mind the punishment, nor had he apparently the most distant idea that the issue of the fight was any more affected by it than if it had been another man instead of himself who was thus suffering. He went in at King with the same object of either hugging or throwing him. He seldom tried to hit, and if he did, he almost always failed. King was scarcely marked in the face, but neither his strength nor his pluck could endure many more of these heavy falls. The partisans of Heenan had been confident throughout, and now their confidence was on the point of being completely justified. A fall of extraordinary severity stunned King. He appeared gone past hope. The spectators thought the fight over, and closed in upon the ropes, as if to observe more narrowly the condition of the combatants in the now extinct strife. But here was seen the value of a skillful second. By dashing a basin of water over King's head, Jerry Noon managed to revive him just within the allotted time. With unnecessary promptitude Heenan walked towards King's corner, thereby saving King from the necessity of coming to meet him, which probably he could not have done. From this moment the tide of fortune turned. King hit Heenan with tremendous effect in the round which followed his own hair-breadth escape from extinction. After those blows, Heenan was all abroad; while King, discerning that there was still a chance, fought on with a determination that will cause him to be remembered as one of the most resolute boxers the Ring has seen. The confusion occasioned by the rush of spectators at the moment of Heenan's supposed victory was never allayed. The short remainder of the fight took place amid a disorder which rendered it difficult to discern exactly what occurred. But the general result was unmistakable. Heenan had all the worst of the fighting, while King seemed to grow in force and fury with every blow he gave. At last the sponge was thrown up, in token that Heenan could come to time no more, and certainly no man could have exhibited more conclusive external evidence of the necessity of yielding.

All this fighting was got into six-and-thirty minutes, but only very unreasonable spectators would say that they were not satisfied. It was, indeed, a battle of giants; and rarely, throughout the entire history of the Ring, has there been witnessed fiercer fighting, or a more surprising turn of luck. Of course, we are glad, as Englishmen, that King has won; and even if he had lost, we might well be proud of the pluck and bottom he had shown. At the same time, the American, Heenan, has many friends in England, and he will not lose them by getting the worse of a fair stand-up fight, in which the courage shown by him under punishment was a worthy accompaniment of his admirable figure and superhuman strength. In observance of a graceful custom, the victor and his friend Mace went round after the fight to collect subscriptions for the beaten man. No doubt a sparring benefit will be got up, as usual in such cases, to raise money for him, and by all his conduct since he came to England, he well deserves that it should be made a benefit indeed. King's victory places him at the top of the tree, and he must have won, beside universal popularity, a large sum of money.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Morning Herald* lauds the police for the assistance they rendered: "A number of policemen of the M division kept a line to the great gate of the South-Eastern Railway, through the wicket of which those who had the money for the tickets were allowed to pass. Right well did these men perform their duty, a duty which we were glad to see the police undertake." This writer says, at the lowest calculation, there must have been 1,100 to 1,200 persons present, and, as everybody had to pay £3, the receipts may be put down at nearer £3,500 than £3,000. There was a long delay in choosing a referee, and "the wrangle was several times nearly coming to fisticuffs and a 'free fight,' as would have been said by the many Yankees who drawled out their offers to back Heenan. But at length, chiefly by the interposition of one of the numerous members of parliament, who, with peers and officers of both army and navy were present, a referee was agreed upon." King, the *Herald* says, when hailed as the winner of £2,000, "was well able to return the greetings of his friends, and even to walk across the ring and take the hand of his late opponent, who was now a fearful object, his face being absolutely running with blood, while also swollen to an extent which can scarcely be imagined. He was also punished internally, for he vomited so much that it was feared he was about to die; and it was only after a very considerable interval that he was brought in an open fly to the station at Wadhurst, where it was thought better he should remain for the day at least. King returned to town in the special train which arrived at Bricklayers' Arms station at 2 o'clock." The "organ of the conservative party," waxing professional, goes on to say that "the truth of the matter is that Heenan cannot fight. He can wrestle, he can hug, he can bear down, but he cannot spar. His days as a boxer are over in this country, though he may aspire to fill the place in America of the far-famed 'Yankee Sullivan.' If he should have the temerity to meet Mace the latter would smother him in blood or pound him into mincemeat in a quarter of an hour. If the pugilists will only be true to themselves and to their patrons, and will but discountenance the roughs and their 'ramping,' the ring may yet recover some of the ground it has lost with a portion of the public. From the first to last yesterday *there was nothing to complain of*, except the way in which the ring was kept."

The *Morning Advertiser* publishes memoirs of the men, and adheres to the slang of the ring—the writer clearly reveling in his work. In a neighboring column the same journal has an edifying "leader" upon the "covert infidelity" in the Church, Bishop Colenso's heresies, and Rev. F. D. Maurice's painful unsoundness respecting the doctrine of the Atonement.

The *Sporting Life* says that the sudden manner in which Heenan fell weak must arise from constitutional infirmity, as "seldom or ever has a man been gifted with more muscular power, which was proved by the easy and effective manner in which he disposed of Tom King when an opportunity was afforded him to bring his great wrestling powers into force. There was too much hugging to conform to our ideas respecting the manner of conducting a fair stand-up fight, but as the rulers of the ring do not disallow a discretional use of the system, it will be some time before it is barred. John Heenan, as heretofore, displayed the greatest gameness and resolution. When so weak that he could scarcely stand, he went up to take punishment with the heart of a lion, and we can only remark, that although Heenan has been defeated, he is not disgraced. The fight, as regards the arrangements, was a perfect success, and the great muster of the 'upper ten thousand' plainly shows that when things are properly conducted the ring loses none of its popularity. This fight may with safety be considered a step in the right direction, conducing to the revival of the ring, and another orderly meeting similar to that of Thursday will do almost all that is requisite for the purpose."

MR. BAYARD TAYLOR'S NOVEL.

HANNAH THURSTON: A STORY OF AMERICAN LIFE. By BAYARD TAYLOR. New-York: G. P. PUTNAM. 1863.

It is, perhaps, a problem whether the prestige of an established reputation is really an advantage to an author in entering a new field of literature; for while it predisposes his readers in his favor, it, at the same time, raises anticipations not easy to satisfy. Mr. BAYARD TAYLOR has gained a very extended popularity as a descriptive writer, and some success as a poet, and when it was announced that he had a novel in hand, he was able to claim in advance the suffrages of thousands who were disposed to take on trust anything that might come from his pen. Mr. TAYLOR'S novel is at length given to the public, and his warmest admirers are fain to confess a disappointment at the result. *Hannah Thurston* is a notable illustration of the fact that a man may walk up and down the world, and tell what he sees with good success, and yet lamentably trip when he comes to tread the realms of imagination and attempts to give to airy nothings a local habitation and a name. It is lame in its plot, feeble in its characterization, and puerile in its philosophy.

We do not know that a man should be held morally accountable merely because he writes a stupid book, for the public has in its own hands the very easy revenge of letting it severely alone. But when a stupid book comes heralded by all the trumpetings of puffery, as something really witty and wise—to let it alone is in a manner to allow the compensation of things to be for a time baulked. For months past the public has been kept periodically posted as to Mr. BAYARD TAYLOR'S labors on this work. By a judicious management of that species of "gradual development," the model of which literary puffery has lately cribbed from the repertory of the showman and the patent medicine vendor, we have been progressively excited by the announcements—"BAYARD TAYLOR is writing a novel"—"BAYARD TAYLOR is writing a novel of American life"—"BAYARD TAYLOR is writing a story of American Society, in which it is understood *autobiographical* material will be largely drawn on," &c., &c. Well, BAYARD TAYLOR'S novel is out, and we have read it. It is an extraordinary book. From a philosophical point of view we think we can say we are indebted to Mr. TAYLOR, as we are to all writers who enlarge human experience; for he has, to use a phrase of SYDNEY SMITH, "extended the bounds of pessimism," and carried the possibilities of stupidity to hitherto unrealized reaches. Mr. TAYLOR, as all the world knows, has been a great traveler; but the explorer of Arctic and Antarctic realms has earned a new title by dropping into the Serbonian bog a plummet deeper than the wit of man has yet sounded.

Mr. TAYLOR, at the very outset, knocks the props from under that part of the programme that had led us to believe we should find an autobiographical warp interwoven with the woof of *Hannah Thurston*. "I am," he peremptorily declares in the preface, "neither Mr. Woodbury, Mr. Waldo, nor Seth Wattles. "We confess to a sinking of the heart and a blighting of our hopes. Students of SHAKESPEARE peruse the sonnets for the subtle allusions to his personal fortunes and experiences which they think to detect in them, and the interpreters of DANTE claim to find a biographic mine in the Divine Comedy. In like manner, how grateful would it have been to cotemporary, as well as to coming admirers, to have known that TAYLOR was revealed, even though in a glass darkly, in some one of the *dramatis personæ* of this *Story of American Life*. But he "begs leave to protest against this popular superstition." Well, well, regrets are unavailing:

> "'Tis ever thus from childhood's hour,
> We've seen our fondest hopes decay."

But if all our illusions on the score of finding a biographic element in the book are thus rudely torn up by the roots, it is some compensation to be told by the author that his work furnishes a sort of biography of American society in general. "I perceived," he says, "peculiarities of development in American life *which have escaped the notice of novelists*, but which are strikingly adapted to the purposes of fiction, both in the originality and occasional grotesqueness of their manifestation, *and the deeper questions which lie beneath the surface*." THACKERAY, in his Book of Snobs, speaks of "sinking deep shafts into society." Mr. TAYLOR has been doing this for the society of America. His particular "shaft" is opened in the town of "Ptolemy," which we gather from subsequent indications to be in the northern part of the State of New-York. Its mere geographical designation we do not know; but we dare say "seven cities" at least will claim the right and title. The "peculiarity of development" of Ptolemy was that it had three "sewing circles," which, at the date of the story, "November, 1852," (though why November, or why 1852, does not appear,) had united into one great sewing "Union." "The Union," it seems, "with from twenty-five to forty members, was found to be greatly more animated and attractive than either of the Circles, separately, had been." Of course the highly ingenious device of holding a meeting of the "Union," is made the vehicle for bringing forward the various personages who figure in the story. Mrs. Waldo, the wife of the minister of the Cimmerian Church of Ptolemy, is hit off in this lively photograph: "She was the oleagenous solvent in which the hard yelk of the Mission fund, the vinegar of the Cimmerians and the mustard of the Abolitionists lost their repellant qualities. Her greatest charm, however, was her complete unconsciousness of her own value." Of her amiable husband, Rev. Mr. Waldo, we are told that "his face received an expression of perpetual hunger," and that "*the air of isolation*," (whatever that may mean,) "common to clergymen of those small and insignificant sects which seem to exist by sheer force of obstinacy, was not very perceptible in him. It had been neutralized, if not suppressed, by force of strong animal temperament. *On that side of his nature there was no isolation!*" Next we have Seth Wattles, a tailor of the village, "an awkward, ungainly person, whose clothes were a continual satire on his professional skill. *The first impression which the man made was the want of compact form.* The face was long and lumpy in outline, *without a proper coherence between the features.* His skin had that appearance of oily clamminess which belongs to such an organization."

We think it our duty to bring these fascinating personages promptly before the reader's mental vision, because they play important parts, as what Mr. TAYLOR calls "types of character" in American society, and he sets far more by these than anything in the mere plot of the story. Another "type" is Mr. Woodbury, a former resident in the vicinity of Ptolemy, who had been many years in India, but having lately returned, makes his social debut by an introduction at the "Union." He is "tall and sunburnt, with a moustache," and gains the general good will by giving a handsome donation to the Society. ("Had he been less impulsive—less inclined to create at once a warm atmosphere around his future home—*he would not have given so much*.") In consequence of this, as the veracious historian tells us, "his introduction to Ptolemy society was—in the social technology of Boston—'a success.'" "Social *technology*" is good, and we would give something to know what the writer fancies it to mean. "Then came singing, commencing with 'From Greenland's Icy Mountains.'" This serves to introduce Hannah Thurston, who figures as the leading "type of character," and gives her name to the story. Hannah is the daughter of a Quaker widow, and herself a strong-minded woman. She also sings, and Mr. Woodbury "cordially thanked the singer—an act rather unusual in Ptolemy at that time, and hence a grateful surprise to Hannah Thurston, to whom his words conveyed a more earnest meaning than was demanded by mere formal courtesy."

It does not need half an eye to foresee that these two personages will fulfill the orthodox requirements of the novel by marrying each other. The story, which is destitute of the first element of plot, is a narrative of how this was brought about. Mr. Woodbury, the hero of the book, had "slowly and comfortably matured his manhood in the immemorial repose of Asia," which is where Americans ordinarily mature their manhood. Hannah Thurston, the heroine, "had had her girlish dreams; but the next birthday was her thirtieth, and she had already crossed, in resolve, that deep gulf of woman's life." We own up not to have the faintest notion what this means, but we touch bottom at last when Mr. TAYLOR tells us that "she was somewhat above the average height of woman, though not noticeably tall, and a little too slender for beauty." Her smile "had a rare benignity and beauty;" her nose was "faultless," and she was very properly "pale in the face," for "a ruddy tint would not have harmonized with the spiritual and sensitive character of her countenance." "No one would have thought of calling Hannah Thurston a beauty." In society, it seems, nine men would have been brutes enough to "pass" the spinster of the faultless nose and the delicately-arched eyebrows "without a thought;" "but the tenth would have stood still, and said: 'Here is a woman to sit at a king's right hand in thunder-storms'"—which is surely an excellent thing in woman.

Miss Thurston had undertaken "to play an *exceptional part* in the world," which is justly pronounced "the severest test of a woman." And yet, "no tongue dared to whisper an insinuation against either her sincerity or her purity." On the contrary, she had in Mr. Taylor's extraordinary *technology*, "*achieved* popularity." Shortly after Mr. Woodbury's advent, a Woman Rights Meeting is held in Ptolemy, at which Hannah Thurston "pleads" the capacity of woman to "measure a yard of calico as rapidly, or choose a shade of zephyr as correctly, as the elegant young men who stand behind the counter." We are told that "Woodbury was profoundly interested in the speaker and in her words. Both were equally new to him."—which, considering that he had been slowly and comfortably maturing his manhood in the immemorial repose of Asia, is not greatly to be wondered at. An opportunity, however, is given to improve the acquaintance, as Mrs. Waldo arranges that the next meeting of the Sewing Union shall be held at Mr. Woodbury's house. This extraordinary creature—Mr. TAYLOR'S idea of the "type" of an American minister's wife—had begun her acquaintance with Mr. Woodbury by asking a donation, and now on the second interview tells him, "You should get married." This shrewd suggestion evidently strikes him as something very profound, for he presently exclaims, "What a Queen of the *salons* this woman would have made." His reply is not as satisfactory, however, as it should be. "'That is easily said, Mrs. Waldo,' he replied, *with a laugh which covered, like a luxuriant Summer vine, the entrance to a sighing cavern*; 'easily said, and might be easily done, if one were allowed to choose a wife for her domestic qualities, valued at so much per month.'"

The "ladies connected with the Sewing Union" were all present, and even Hannah Thurston, "finding that her absence would be the only exception, and might thus seem intentional, was constrained to accompany them"—a course which, seeing that "she had undertaken to play an exceptional part in the world," was, to say the least, neither courageous nor consistent. The explanation of it is, that "his personality seemed to her to be antagonistic to her own, and the knowledge gave her a singular sense of pain." It is not clear to the reader what logical furtherance the development of the story finds in this *séance*, of the sewing Union at the house of Mr. Woodbury; its chief object seems to be to bring out the following scene between Woodbury and the strong-minded woman:

She was standing before the picture of Francesca da Rimini, lost in the contemplation of the wonderful grace and pathos of the floating figures, when Woodbury, approaching her, said:

"I am glad that you admire it, Miss Thurston. The picture is a great favorite with me."

"The subject is from DANTE, is it not?" she asked; "that figure is he, I think."

Woodbury was agreeably surprised at her perception, especially as she did not say "*Dant*," which he might possibly have expected. He explained the engraving, and found that she recollected the story, *having read Cary's translation.*

"Since you are so fond of pictures, Miss Thurston," said he, "let me show you another favorite of mine. Here, in the library."

* * * In the midst of the cool, odorous darkness, stood a young Indian girl of wonderful beauty, with languishing, almond-shaped eyes, and some gorgeous unknown blossom drooping from her night-black hair. Her only garment, of plaited grass or rushes, was bound across the hips, leaving the lovely form bare in its unconscious purity. * * *

"Oh, how beautiful!" exclaimed Hannah Thurston, at once impressed by the sentiment of the picture: "It is like the scent of the tube rose."

"Ah, you comprehend it!" exclaimed Woodbury, surprised and pleased: "do you know the subject?"

"Not at all, but it scarcely needs an explanation."

"Have you ever heard of Kalidasa, the Hindoo poet?"

"I have not, I am sorry to say," she answered; "I have sometimes found references to the old Sanscrit literature in modern authors, but that is all I know about it."

"My own knowledge has been derived entirely from translations," said he, "and I confess that this picture was the cause of my acquaintance with Kalidasa. I never had patience to read their interminable epics. Shall I tell you the story of Sakontala, this lovely creature?"

"Certainly, if you will be so kind; it must be beautiful."

Woodbury then gave her a brief outline of the drama, to which she listened with the greatest eagerness and delight. At the close, he said:

"I am sorry I have not a copy of the translation to offer you. But, if you would like to read another work by the same poet, I think I have the '*Megha-Duta*,' or 'Cloud-Messenger,' somewhere in my library. It is quite as beautiful a poem, though not in the dramatic form. There are many characteristic allusions to Indian life, but none, I think, that you could not understand."

"Thank you, Mr. Woodbury. It is not often that I am able to make the acquaintance of a new author, and the pleasure is all the greater. I know very little of literature outside of the English language, and this seems like the discovery of a new world in the Past. India is so far-off and unreal."

"Not to me," he answered, with a smile. * * *

We despair of discovering the purpose of this conversation, but it is of a piece with the whole book—one pointless, aimless situation leading to another of the same stamp, and so on in maddening succession. Next day Mr. Woodbury calls to leave the promised book. "He had designed simply to leave it, with his compliments, and perhaps a visiting card—though the latter was not *de rigueur* in Ptolemy." But he enters through "the small outer vestibule," (which is the Taylorism for porch,) and the following twaddle, which ensues, and which is spun out through a score or two of pages, affords a fair sample of the conversational quality of the story.

"My name is Woodbury," said he, as he took the old Quaker lady's hand respectfully.

"I thought it must be thee," she interrupted. "Hannah described thy looks to me. Won't thee sit down?"

"I have only called to leave a book for your daughter, and will not disturb you."

"Thee won't disturb me. I feel all the better for a little talk now and then, and would be glad if thee could sit and talk awhile. Thee's just about the age my little Richard would have been if he had lived."

"Hannah's gone out," she resumed; "but I expect her back presently. It's kind of thee to bring the book for her. Thee bears no malice, I see, that she lectured thee a little. Thee must get used to that, if thee sees much of our people. We are called upon to bear testimony, in season and out of season, and especially toward men of influence, like thee, whose responsibilities are the greater." * * *

"Can thee accustom thyself to such a quiet life as thee leads now?" she asked; and then gazing at him, continued, as if speaking to herself: "It is not a restless face. Ah, but that is not always a sign of a quiet heart. There are mysteries in man past finding out, or only discovered when it is too late!"

"This life is not at all quiet," he answered, "compared with that which I have led for the past ten or twelve years." * * *

"I like to hear thee say that," exclaimed the widow, turning suddenly toward him, with a bright, friendly interest in his face. "Men are so apt to be satisfied with their own opinions—at least, when they've reached thy age. Thee's over thirty, I should think?"

"Thirty-six," Woodbury respectfully answered.

The damsel with the faultless nose had already begun to play the deuce with the ancient Asiatic:

"Woodbury went into the library, wheeled his armchair to the open window, lighted a cigar, and watched the risen moon brighten against the yielding twilight. The figure of Hannah Thurston, in her white dress, with the pearl-colored ribbon at her throat, with the long lashes falling over her dark-gray eyes, the flush on her cheek, and the earnest sweetness of her lips, rose before him through the rings of smoke, in the luminous dusk of the evening. * * * He bowed down in reverence before that highest purity which *is unconscious of what it ventures*, and an anxious interest arose in his heart as he recognized the dangers into which it might lead her. *He felt that she was capable of understanding him.*"

To aid her in understanding him, however, he seizes "a ponderous translation of the *Mahacharata*, LANE'S *Arabian Nights*, JEAN PAUL'S *Sibenskäs* and *Walt and Vult*, clasps them in his pocket, and, "mounting his horse, rides to Ptolemy," to fling them at the feet of his adorable. We take this to be the most remarkable courtship on record. Presently, we strike another literary placer:

"I have brought along *The Princess*, Miss Thurston; you have certainly heard of it?"

"Oh, yes," said she, "*I saw several critical notices of it when it was first published*, and have always wished to read it."

"It gives a poetical view of a subject we have sometimes discussed," he added playfully, "and I am not quite sure that you will be satisfied with the close. It should not be read, however, as a serious argument on either side. TENNYSON, I suspect chose the subject for its picturesque effects, rather than from any intentional moral purpose. I confess I think he is right. We may find sermons in poems as we find them in stones, but one should be as unconscious of the fact as the other. It seems to me that all poetry which the author designs, in advance, to be excessively moral or pious, is more or less a failure."

"*Mr. Woodbury! Do you really think so?*" exclaimed Hannah Thurston, in surprise.

"Yes; but the idea is not original with me," etc., etc.

"I shall certainly read the book with all the more interest from what you have said," she frankly replied. "You have very much more literary cultivation than I, and perhaps it is presumptuous in me to dispute your opinion; but my nature leads me to honor an earnest feeling for truth and humanity, even when its expression is not in accordance with literary laws."

"I honor such a feeling also, whenever it is genuine, however expressed," Woodbury answered.

This mode of assault soon began to tell on the strong minded lady with the faultless nose. And well it might, for we would like to see the woman that could withstand the lover who comes to make the escalade of her heart on a ladder of Sanscrit tomes and German translations. "This weird and dangerous power in the man wounded as well as disturbed her." And yet she felt: "it was weakness to shrink from the encounter: it was humiliation to acknowledge, as she must, that *her powers of resistance diminished with each attack*." We do not agree with her: on the contrary, we think she did quite as well as could be expected under the circumstances. Nevertheless it was some encouragement to the lover that she began to show the symptoms of exhaustion, and all Mr. Woodbury had to do was to empty shelf after shelf of his library, until she should cry "Hold, enough!" But the effect was not visible merely on the lady: with each load of literature he brought to her feet he felt himself getting the more entangled. "One cannot," as Mr. TAYLOR philosophically remarks, "play with fire, without burning one's fingers." "I foresee," he said to himself, "*that if I do not take care I shall love the girl madly and passionately!*" At length our pining pundit determines to bring things to a *dénouement*. His mode of accomplishing this is characteristic. He writes a long letter, *puts it within the blank leaves of a book*, (why could he not have sent it without the book?) and has it carried by the servant to the house of his lady love. "When the book appeared, she first looked at the back; [a very sensible thing, you will agree;] it was WARE'S *Zenobia—a work she had long desired to possess.* A thick letter slippped out from between the blank leaves and fell on her lap. On the envelope was her name only—Hannah Thurston'—in a clear, firm, masculine hand. She laid the volume aside, broke the seal, and *read the letter through from beginning to end*." We will not ask the reader to emulate the example of the fair Hannah. Enough that it told her how Mr. Woodbury, while "slowly and comfortably maturing his manhood in the immemorial repose of Asia," had loved not wisely but too well. It was a sockdologer to her.

"She put the letter suddenly on the table, and half rose from her chair, in the excitement of the thought. Then, as if struck by a stunning blow, she dropped back again. Her face grew cold and deadly pale, and her arms fell nerveless at her sides. Her eyes closed, and her breath came in long, labored sighs. After a few minutes she sat up, placed her elbow on the table, and rested her forehead on her hand. 'I am growing idiotic,' she whispered, with an attempt to smile; 'my brain is giving way—it is only a woman's brain.'

The fire had long been extinct. The room was cold and a chill crept over her. She rose, secured the letter and the book, *and went to bed*."

On the following day they again met in the "secluded nook." Folios and octavos had done their work; and she could only exclaim,

> "I strove against the stream, and strove in vain—
> Let the great river bear me to the main."

After this it only remains to marry the pair, a conclusion the more easily reached, as the old woman, who feels that she is dying, desires it to take place on the spot. This was accordingly done. "Woodbury remained until evening, assisting his wife in her attendance on the invalid, or keeping her company in the sitting-room when the latter slept. He said nothing of his love or of his new claim upon her. * * * When he left with the falling night to return to Lakeside, she felt as if a stay had been withdrawn from her." In a few days, however, the old lady dies and Mr. Woodbury is able to say to Madame, "Enter my home now, as the guest of my heart, giving me only the right to soothe and comfort, until you can hear without reproach the voice of love." The chronicler tells us that "this noble consideration for her grief and her loneliness melted Hannah's heart." In the next and final chapter, however, the author shows how "the man and woman come to an understanding." Henceforth the lady renounced woman's rights, refused an invitation to speak at the next convention; but gave herself up to "the careful study of the English and French classics and the principal German and Italian authors," (in translations,) and the birth of a fine boy in the next chapter, drops the curtain on a happy family, and Mr. BAYARD TAYLOR'S *Story of American Life*.

In the analysis of this production we have confined ourselves to the main current of the story. There are, besides this, various side eddies that whirl and whirl, simulating motion, but get *nowhither*, foolish feeble little episodes and spurts of conversation without head or tail, and which are really a phenomenon in their way. Mr. TAYLOR bars criticism on the score of the plot, however, by telling us that this is the least part of the story, and that it is the philosophy of it that he "travels on." It was, perhaps, with a glimmer of consciousness of the poverty of his invention that the author at the outset tells us he "does not rest the interest of the book on its slender plot, but on the fidelity with which it represents certain types of character and phases of society." Now the philosophy is, to our mind, even more foolish than the framework of fiction on which it is hung. He has drawn neither a picture nor a caricature of American society, for a caricature has at least some points of exaggerated similitude: Mr. TAYLOR'S men and women of straw are like nothing anywhere. Women's-rights preachers and spirit-rappers, though they can hardly be said to form either types of American character or phases of American society, are yet to be found in abundance; and a moderately clever writer might find in them and their ways and doings and opinions ample material for a very readable novel; but it needs a quite other talent than Mr TAYLOR'S *fade* didactics. He claims that such characters as he paints can be met with "in almost any country community of the Northern and Western States." You can find no such characters in *any* "community," simply because they bear no resemblance to human beings anywhere. There is vulgarity enough in American society, but the kind of vulgarity that pervades this book exists in no "Ptolemy" out of Mr. TAYLOR'S imagination. We should think, for example, that any grown man would be ashamed to pen such a disgusting travesty of American manners as this:

When the last guest had disappeared, Mr. Hamilton Bue carefully closed and locked the doors, and then remarked to his wife, who was engaged in putting out the extra lamps: "Well, Martha, I think we've done very well, though I say it that shouldn't. Mr. Styles liked your tea, and the cake must have been pretty good, *judging from the way they stowed it out of sight*."

"Yes," said Mrs. Bue; "I was afraid at one time, there wouldn't be enough to go round. It's well I made up my mind, at the last minute, to bake five instead of four. Molasses is so high."

"Oh, what's the odds of two shillings more or less," her husband consolingly remarked, "when you've got to make a regular spread? Besides, I guess I'll clear expenses, by persuading Woodbury to insure his house in our concern. Dennisons always took the Etna."

It would also be worth while knowing where Mr. TAYLOR meets members of the New-York Legislature who talk in this style: "I shall be very glad if you will now and then accept a seat in my pew. Mr. Styles is a great authority on Galatians, and I am sure you will derive spiritual refreshment from his sermons."

Mr. TAYLOR fills page after page with conversations of which the following is a fair sample:

"I'm glad you've got back, Mr. Woodbury," she said, as they descended the hill. "We like to have our friends about us in the Winter, and I assure you, you've been missed."

"It's pleasant to feel that I have already a place among you," he answered. "What is the last piece of gossip? Is the great Sewing Union still in existence?

"Not quite on the old foundation," etc.

* * * * * * * *

"We were going into the garden."

"Pray, allow me to accompany you," said Woodbury.

"Oh, yes, if you care about flowers and things."

Now, we are not prepared to say that such colloquies do not actually pass between men and women in real life, and consequently we are not prepared to deny Mr. TAYLOR'S claim to be *natural* after this fashion; but what stuns one is that a man should commit such stuff to paper and print it in a book. And the wonder on this score is subordinate to the amazement that such balderdash can actually be put forth as something notable in literature!

We are quite conscious that in giving to the criticism of this production the amount of space we have already filled, we may appear to be expending more powder than the game is worth. But as we have already intimated, we are not so much disgusted at Mr. BAYARD TAYLOR'S having written a very silly book, as at the incredible effrontery of claiming attention for such intolerable platitudes. "*I am aware*," he declares, "*how much is required for the construction of a good work of fiction*—how much I venture in entering upon a field so different from those over which I have hitherto been ranging. *It is, however, the result of no sudden whim, no ambition casually provoked.* The plan of the following story has long been familiar to my mind." A man who sounds a challenge of that kind should have something to sustain the expectations he provokes. And when an author puts forth high-flown claims of having discovered "peculiarities of development in American life that have escaped the notice of novelists," and of having sounded "the deeper questions which lie beneath the surface," and gives us only such lame and impotent performances as this, we should be derelict to our duty if we did not expose such a piece of literery shoddyism. The platitudes and puerilities which might otherwise only raise a smile, when confronted with such pompous pretensions, excite the contempt of every man who has in him the feeblest instincts of common honesty in literature.

The War in Texas.

THE CAPTURE OF FORT ESPERANZA.

"A soldier's letter," dated Fort Esperanza, Texas, Dec. 3, gives the following account of the capture of that place:

"On the 22d we crossed Orange Bay, landed on St. Joseph Island, and next morning took our line of march without baggage or transportation. We managed to each carry one or two blankets and three days' rations. We moved eighteen miles and arrived about sundown at Cedar Bayou, a stream about 100 yards in width, which divides St. Joseph and Matagorda Islands. We were here nearly two days in crossing this stream.

While crossing this bayou, some of us who were not engaged in the work went out hunting deer, and were fortunate enough to kill not less than two dozen; and quite a number of choice beeves, all of which were well relished by hungry officers and soldiers.

The last of our troops gained Matagorda Island about 11 o'clock at night, marched up the beach eight miles, and camped until morning. Next day we marched twenty-five miles, which brought us within ten miles of this place.

The following morning, the 27th, we were up early as usual, and expected by noon or before to have a big fight, as from all information we had been able to obtain, we expected a warm reception. But such was not the result. Our fight did not amount to much. We drove in their pickets, and found that they had a strong fort and eight heavy guns mounted thereon. In a skirmish, driving in their pickets, we had one of our staff wounded severely, and one man slightly in the shoulder. We then withdrew and encamped for the night. The next day we did nothing, in consequence of being visited by what the citizens here call a norther. The cold was intense. Never suffered more from cold in my life—from the fact that the wind was severe, and our command had neither tents nor wood, and were lying on the cold, sandy beach, the sand nearly filling every eye. But the cold finally proved beneficial, from the fact that it pinched rebels worse than ourselves, and by being constantly on the alert, we caught them unexpectedly and gained their outer works, consisting of a fine line of intrenchments, about six hundred yards in advance of their fort. These works we took early on the 29th, and got several pieces of artillery in position that evening, under a fire from their heavy guns on the fort, but with little damage to us. When we had gained this advantage, the rebels became somewhat uneasy. As the wind began to lull, and six or seven gunboats lay within sight, waiting for a calm, to come up in range, about 10 o'clock P. M., they began preparing to evacuate, and by 1 A. M. we were aroused by the explosion of one of the magazines, of which there were seven in the fort. We believing the explosion no humbug, ordered our skirmishers forward, and found the fort evacuated and the inside all in flames. We captured six prisoners that were left behind to do the firing. We entered and saved two of the magazines and considerable ammunition, but the other five were blown up. We pursued the rebels to a bayou, which is about one and a half miles further up the island, where they had a ferry, and the boat on the other side, but after daylight we succeeded in crossing a few men, and captured a small fort on the other island, with one 24-pound siege gun, making in all eight guns, and a 10-inch columbiad, the rest are all 24-pound siege guns. This gives us the best harbor on the Texas coast, and the key to Galveston by way of Matagorda and Houston. Thus far we have succeeded to our most sanguine hopes. Our loss in taking this place was one man killed and ten wounded, all privates, except Lieut. G. H. FIFER, of the Twenty-third Illinois, who was Aid-de-Camp First brigade, First division, Thirteenth army corps. No other troops participated in the fight. Our forces here, until after the reduction of the fort, numbered about three thousand, (with eight field pieces,) viz.: The First brigade, First division, Thirteenth army corps, commanded by H. D. WASHBURNE, Colonel Forty-eighth Indiana infantry, and the Thirteenth and Fifteenth Maine, and Thirty-fourth Iowa, commanded by Brigadier-Gen. RANSOM, the whole commanded by Major-Gen. C. C. WASHBURNE. But I must boast a little for the First Brigade, commonly known as Benton's brigade, but commanded now by Col. WASHBURNE, Gen. BENTON being absent. Our brigade is composed of the following regiments, viz: Eighth Indiana infantry, Ninety-ninth Illinois infantry and Thirty-third Illinois infantry. These regiments have all been tried on many bloody fields, and have never failed to come out victorious, and the rebels have frequently expressed an unwillingness to fight us, for, as they say, we never have been whipped, and it is no use to try to whip us."

More Rebel Piracy—Attempt to Seize a Detroit Steamer.

The Detroit *Tribune* of Monday publishes the following:

"Capt. STRINGLEMAN of the new steamtug *Sentinel*, which left this port for New-York last month, returned to Detroit yesterday. Capt. STRINGLEMAN informs us of a circumstance which occurred in Montreal, calling strongly to mind the desperate affair which resulted in the steamer *Chesapeake* coming for a short time in possession of rebel pirates.

The *Sentinel* reached Montreal on Saturday, Nov. 21, and on Sunday she attracted considerable attention, while lying in the harbor, by her neat appearance, with her colors gaily flaunting in the breeze. On Monday twelve men came on board and applied for passage to Pictou, N. S. Capt. STRINGLEMAN informed them that they were on the wrong boat, and stated that the *Prince Albert*, which was then in port, was bound for Pictou, and would, no doubt, accommodate them. Upon consultation among themselves the party withdrew, but returned soon after, and urgently renewed their request for a passage. They were informed that the *Sentinel* was built principally for towing purposes, and had no accommodations for passengers, but this seemed only to render them still more importunate. They assured Capt. STRINGLEMAN that they were accustomed to rough usage, and could sleep as well in the fire hold as upon the most downy couch, and, as an extra inducement, threw out significant hints about some choice packages of fluids which they would bring aboard, provided they could be accommodated. As the men thus anxious to accept quarters in the fire hold were all well dressed, and most of them wore kid gloves, a suspicion of their real design flashed across the mind of Capt. S., and he inquired if the cold northern climate which they were in was not severe on their southern blood? This question seemed to disconcert them, and, after a pause, one of them replied that the climate was rather severe—that they were residents of Bermuda, but preferred taking the overland route home from Pictou. They soon after retired sullenly from the boat, and were not seen again.

The crew of the *Sentinel* consisted of ten men, but that number unarmed would have stood but a sorry chance in a contest with twelve desperadoes armed to the teeth.

Capt. STRINGLEMAN informs us that the inhabitants of Pictou are remarkably friendly to our Government. They receive their supplies from this country, and their relations with American merchants appear to be of the most cordial character. They have had some dealings with rebels, but invariably speak of them with contempt and aversion."

THE WILL OF THE LATE HUGH JENKINS, ESQ.—The late HUGH JENKINS, Esq., by his will dated Sept. 26, 1863, has bequeathed to the Oliver Hibernian Free School $500; to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, (of which he was a member,) $500, and to the Rev. JAS. DOLAN, of St. Patrick Church, for the orphan children under his care, $500. The will has revenue stamps attached amounting to $80, representing an estate of $450,000. By the terms of the will the dwelling houses, Nos. 52 and 54 St. Paul-street, with the furniture, plate, carriage, &c., of the deceased, his country seat "Dunmore," and the income of $40,000, are left to his widow in trust, during her lifetime, and afterward to be divided between his four children. He leaves $30,000 in trust to each of his daughters, MRS. ELIZABETH ANN HARRISON and MRS. HENRIETTA O'DONOVAN. The deceased also bequeathed $30,000 to each of his sons, and canceling all their debts on his books, &c., besides to JOHN S. JENKINS, his interest in his business, and requesting BENJAMIN W. JENKINS to invest the above amount in business with his brother. A legacy of $1,000 is left to each of the grandchildren of the deceased, in trust, to be invested until they are of age. To the children of his brother ROBERT, "before provided for," $1,000 each. To MRS MARCELLA TODD is left $3,000, absolutely with a request that she will always have a home with some member of the family. To SAMUEL HAZELHURST, in consideration of faithful services as clerk, $2,500. The remainder of the estate is to be equally divided among his children. His two sons, JOHN STRICKER JENKINS and BENJAMIN WRIGHT JENKINS, are appointed executors and trustees of the various trusts under the will.—*Baltimore Sun, Dec. 21.*

Col. Shaw.

MRS. GASKELL, the author of *Cranford, North and South*, &c., who is as much known and admired in the United States as in Great Britain, and who is a staunch friend of our cause, contributes to the current number of *Macmillan's Magazine* a cordial eulogium of Col. SHAW, of the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts regiment, whom she knew personally, as well as his mother and sisters. We copy the opening sentence of this eloquent article:

"I should like some of the readers of *Macmillan* to remember the name of the late Col. ROBERT GOULD SHAW, as the name of one who gave up his life for what he believed to be right, deliberately risked and cheerfully laid down a prosperous, happy, beloved and loving life."

AFFAIRS IN UTAH.

An Epidemic—Trade—The Theatres—Newspapers, &c.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, Friday, Dec. 4, 1863.

During the very fine and warm weather of the Fall, an epidemic fell upon this city and vicinity, in the shape of a severe cold, affecting the head, throat, lungs and back, chiefly, and lingering in the system much longer than an ordinary cold, the cough being, in many instances, exceedingly tenacious. The wonderful health of the Territory, and in particular its freedom from lung affections, was a few years ago a favorite and fruitful topic of Mormon expatiation, especially away from the Territory. But the last two or three years I have not heard so much of it, as the mortality at times has been serious for a super-healthy city, and particularly among the younger portion of the community. The spirit of asthma itself could scarcely wish for more coughing than could sometimes be heard in a Salt Lake audience, whether in church or theatre. With the advent of Winter in earnest, however, the late epidemic appears to have suddenly taken its leave.

Winter has not only stopped the sickness, but it has almost closed the provision and gold dust trade with northern neighbors, though a train, doubtless the last of the season, leaves the northern settlements this week for Idaho, carrying among other things, a thousand sacks of flour. Wheat, flour, and butter are slackening a trifle in price, though the supply of breadstuffs continues limited.

After a "short Fall season of two months" the Theatre closes on Saturday with "Ireland as it Was," and an Irish farce. After a fortnight the house is to reopen with novelties for Christmas and New-Year. The IRWINS, particularly the lady, continue to grow in favor with the patrons of the establishment.

Utah now boasts three newspapers, two weekly and one semi-weekly. The religious folks, the agriculturist, and the soldiery are represented—each party by its respective organ. The fourth paper, when it appears, will probably represent the "rest of mankind," and then Utah newspaperdom, like Grecian architecture, will be perfect.

The rapid development of the mineral resources of the Territories, East, West, North and South, and probably of Utah, too, with the advancing steps of the iron-horse from the East and the West, compel the conviction in the minds of both Jew and Gentile that Utah, whether as State or Territory, will soon be "in the States."

Gerrit Smith and the Canadians.

A SPEECH IN MONTREAL.

GERRIT SMITH delivered an address in Montreal on the night of Dec. 19. The following is an extract from the report given by the Montreal *Witness*:

The North has always been ready to have the constitutionality of its laws tested in the Supreme Court. Has the South been so? No; but when the North sent Commissioners there, it threatened to murder them if they did not leave. Do you sympathize with rebels, because, feeling that Slavery was not safe under the old nation, they have sought to make another nation, founded on Slavery as the corner-stone and cemented with the doctrine of man holding property in man. I presume you do not. Yet such a nation as that is it which they are trying to found, and for that they have rebelled, and not because LINCOLN was chosen; but, because his having been chosen gave them a pretext for their rebellion. Your Anti-Slavery men certainly do not sympathize with the lengthening of the cords, and the strengthening of the stakes of Slavery; you cannot approve of the founding of a nation, the first which the earth has yet seen formed solely for the slaveholder. Yet if none of these are the reasons for your sympathy, pray what are they? [A VOICE—The reason why the South seceded was because they did not like to be ruled by a sectional majority.] Mr. SMITH—Well answered. Why did their fathers come into the Constitution? Because they desired that majorities should prevail. [Tremendous cheering.] There are two grounds whereon your sympathy is claimed by many in this country; first, on the ground that we are prosecuting this war for the overthrow of Slavery. We are not. It is true Slavery has been greatly damaged in this war; it is also certain that Slavery will lose its life in this war. [A VOICE—The slaves will, at least.] (Laughter.) Mr. SMITH—The war is neither being urged to uphold Slavery, nor to overthrow it. We have no right to claim such to be the issue, but it is being prosecuted to save the Union and the nation. Many in the North—oh! shame, shame upon the assertion!—many will have it that the Government is carrying on the war solely to overthrow Slavery. It is not so; it is to suppress the rebellion and save the nation. It is likewise said, whilst the South is all Pro-Slavery, the North is all Abolitionist. That is all false. We have no right to your sympathy on that ground. The fact is our British inheritance of Slavery has corrupted both North and South. Even yet, the most odious name in the North is Abolitionist. At the North, as a general thing, as well as at the South, they will not sit at table with a black man. At the North, as well as at the South, my poor black brother—whom I would press to my bosom with all the delight that I would any other brother—is still an outcast pariah, an unclean leper. It is indeed sad, very sad. In the North the Bible is quoted in favor of Slavery. At the North, the wicked habit obtains of referring to that blessed book to bolster up Slavery,—and why run to a book to support that which is right in itself? In the North, too, there is a general acquiescence in the Southern interpretation of the Constitution, a Constitution which has not one word in it to tolerate Slavery, but which declares all to have the right to life and liberty. To show you how debauched the North has become, they boast there of their liberality in holding this Southern interpretation, and talk of its being magnanimous to take this view of the law. Law! there can be no law for Slavery; it is out of the Constitution—it is out of and against all law. Law is for the purpose of right, and there is not, there cannot be, any right, there cannot be any law, for Slavery. Can there be law for murder—and who should not prefer to part with life rather than with liberty? Yet more destitute of Slavery of the elements of law than is even murder. Lord BROUGHAM had said there is a law above all human codes, a law written on the heart, and by that they would declare the holding of property in man to be a crime. I have, then, disclaimed the two grounds taken by some. I will now state the one only ground on which we ask your sympathy. It is this—the sure one of nationality. It has been said, the South are fighting for independence, the North for empire. That is true. The North is fighting for empire—for the government of the whole nation by the nation. The family tie is inviolable, and so is the national one. The family may consent to change the relative position of its members, and so may nations agree to change, but such change must not be forced upon them. It is the right and duty of a people to foster and rejoice in its nationality. As all the families of the earth seek to let all its families live, so all the nations should let all the nations live, for on these two institutions, the family and the nation, is all society founded. How sad, how painful it is, when I think that the Poles have now been ninety years without a nationality! Italy still bleeds under dismemberment, and would you wring the heart of my country with the grief caused by a broken up nation? She has no distinct North and South. Her physical features forbid her being torn asunder the one from the other, and would you, by her rupture have her to be laughed at; would you not mourn with my nation, should the same fate come upon her which has come upon others? I should sympathize with England if her colonies were to revolt, and hold that she had a right to fight for empire then. [A VOICE—"For a monarcy or a republic?"] Both monarchy and republicanism are sacred with me. If it is not right in England to reduce to loyalty her colonies, it is not right in my country to reduce rebellion to submission. [A VOICE—"A county, but not a State."] A State has greater rights than an English county, but a State is no more the nation than an English county. And now, America, France, England, all nations, is it not time for you all to cease this jealousy, to stand by one another, and to keep your sympathy for something better than piracy and slaveholding ambition. [Tremendous cheering, mingled with faint hisses.] Remember, the rebellion is neither more nor less than Slavery in arms. Having failed in the ballot-box and in intrigue, it has taken up arms; but, thank God, it will fail, rebellion will soon be down, and then Slavery will have to fall with it; for it is not possible that a shred of Slavery may survive the extinction of this rebellion. And then, when we have worked out in tears and in blood our crime against the black man, and healed the deep gashes in his spirit; when we have opened the door for his bodily, mental, and moral release, then we shall be built up as a nation grander than any that the world has ever seen—not because we are better than any other men, but because nature has done so much for us. And when this is achieved—when we have done justice to men of all colors and complexions, than my nation will be relied on all the world over. Having done justice to herself, she will be trusted to do justice toward all other nations. Then shall the words of the poet, speaking of an individual, become applicable to her as a people.

> ——"To thyself be true:
> Thou canst not then be false to any one."

Mr. SMITH resumed his seat, amidst an overwhelming and protracted burst of applause.

J. J. DAY, Esq., then proposed a vote of thanks for the lecture, bespeaking a calm consideration and fair judgment of Mr. SMITH's remarks. The vote was given by acclamation, and the meeting separated. It may be stated that some interruptions which took place, seemed to be caused by a few individuals, who were strangers; the audience, with this exception, evidently being impressed with the weightiness of the matter, and the slow and dignified delivery of the speaker, who several times adroitly turned the opposition to his remarks against those who made it.

Contradiction of the Story about Gen. Ullmann.

BALTIMORE, Saturday, Dec. 26.

Capt. IRVING, of the Fifth Maryland regiment, from the Libby Prison on Tuesday, who arrived at the *American* office this morning, says there is no truth in the report of Gen. ULLMANN being a prisoner in Richmond.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

Additional from Our Foreign Files.

Utterances on the American Question.

Estimates of General Grant's Victory.

MISCELLANEOUS EXTRACTS

AMERICAN TOPICS.

Our late foreign files furnish us with the appended extracts:

EXTRA PARLIAMENTARY UTTERANCES.

A DEFENCE OF OUR CAUSE BY MR. LEATHAM, M. P.

Mr. LEATHAM, M. P., for Huddersfield, recently addressed his constituents, and after alluding to the bombardment of Kagosima, which he severely reprehended, he said:

He would invite attention to the topic of America, which was the greatest of all upon which he purposed to touch. He considered the war not so much one of great and decisive battles as of siege and blockade; and, granting the determination of the North to prosecute it vigorously, he could see but one solution, and that was the complete prostration and ultimate submission of the South. [Hear, hear.] The Northern arms had been successful to a degree beyond the anticipations of those who had ventured to predict. The whole line of the Mississippi had been gained, and the South being shorn of half its strength, the rebellion was cooped up in one corner. But the Federal operations had not merely cleft the Confederation in half, but had pierced it to the heart. [Hear, hear.] The position which the Federals had taken up at Chattanooga—and it was manifest no efforts of the Confederation could dislodge them—would enable them to prey at their leisure upon the very vitals of the rebellion. Desperate, indeed, was the plight to which that ruined cause was reduced. Thanks to the firmness of the British Government, all hopes of European aid withdrawn; the steam rams safely secured, which were to have raised the blockade; [applause;] mutiny and treason in the camp of the Confederates; [hear, hear;] Alabama and Georgia full of disaffection; North Carolina almost in open revolt; Kentucky gone; Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas going; half Tennessee gone; half Virginia gone; Maryland gone; New-Orleans, the greatest city in the Confederacy, in the hands of the enemies; Richmond in danger; starvation everywhere; [hear, hear;] gold and credit nowhere; [cheers;] the paper dollar worth just as many pence as it purported to be worth shillings; the remaining sustenance of the people in the hands of gamblers and sharpers, immense hostile armies advancing on every side, and occupying one after the other those military positions which must eventually command the whole country; [hear, hear;] the Republican cause triumphant, and that by vast majorities all over the North; [cheers;] that last among the many false hopes of secession thus effectually taken away; the courage and determination of the North rising from day to day in proportion as they saw the struggles of their victim growing feebler and feebler—where was there in all that a single ray of hope for the South, or a single drop of consolation for her supporters in this country? ["Hear," and applause.] Blind indeed must be the man who had watched carefully the progress of events during the past year, and, whatever might have been his desires or his predilections, had not been forced to the conviction of the great end that was coming. [Hear, hear.] Manfully struggled against, again and again retarded, at times apparently almost arrested, but still coming like the sure march of destiny, and he rejoiced that it was coming. [Applause.] He rejoiced in the probable termination of this cruel conflict, and the utter overthrow of the conspiracy that caused it. [Applause.] He rejoiced in the approaching emancipation of 3,000,000 of his fellow-men, [great cheering,] in the triumph of right and order, and the thorough vindication of the will and power of a free government to hold its own. [Cheers.] Had this rebellion prospered, had America succumbed, had she shrunk from her terrible responsibilities, had she permitted her flag and her laws to be trampled in the mire, advantage would have been taken of her feebleness, her pusillanimity and her failure, to roll back the tide of liberty all over the world. [Applause.] The principle of self-government would have been humbled by that in the presence of arbitrary power. [Hear, hear.] Privilege and prerogative would have grown strong, the chains of despotism would have been strengthened and tightened throughout Europe, and there was not a single usurper, nor a single despot, who would not have felt his throne firmer under him. [Hear.] We should have been told that the State which submitted to its own dismemberment, which connived at its own dissolution; that the form of Government which parleyed with rebellion was unworthy of a place in the great comity of nations; and that that form of Government had forfeited the respect and confidence of us all. Why, the rebellion was scarcely hatched when the exultation of those whose cause was not that of the people, jumping to the conclusion that it could not prosper, knew no bounds. [Hear, hear.] We were told that the American bubble had burst; that the Republic was a rope of sand; that the great experiment had failed. We were told all this, and we were told also to lift our eyes and witness the wrath of Heaven descending upon a people who had dared to flourish without a peerage, a priesthood or a prince. [Laughter and applause.] And the inference which was drawn from all that was, that in a country in which democracy—in the American sense—had no better chance than poligamy, any measure which should have the effect of raising any portion of the unenfranchised population out of the political degradation under which they labored would be a stride in the direction of American democracy, and therefore of American ruin. That was the inference that was drawn. [Hear.] He did not say whether it was a just one or not, but now that the prophecy of those who had uttered it had proved false—[hear, hear]—now that the rope had shown itself to be no rope of sand—[hear]—now that the great experiment had triumphed, we had a right to turn round upon their own ground, and say, you argued against all liberal measures, against all free institutions, upon the hypothesis that in America they had failed to produce a brave and high-spirited people, upon the hypothesis that they had failed to crush the rebellion and to preserve the integrity of the empire, upon the hypothesis that they were leading straight to national bankruptcy and national dishonor; and they had a right to turn round and take them upon their own ground, now that the war had assumed the position which it had, and force them back step by step through all their deductions, to reverse them, and to argue in favor of those very measures which their taunts, their inferences, and their hypotheses were intended to prejudice and condemn. [Applause.] Do not let them be told that because habeas corpus had been suspended, and the most licentious press in the world placed temporarily under control, that therefore the American Constitution had broken down under the prodigious strain to which it had been subjected. [Hear.] What clearer proof was there of the strength of that Constitution than the ease with which it had adapted itself to the sudden pressure of events? [Hear, hear.] It positively raised one's faith in the freest institutions, in the Constitution raised on the most liberal and popular model—on universal suffrage itself—to witness the cheerfulness, the confidence with which a people so jealous of personal liberty had deposited in the hands of the Executive those priceless rights which experience and reason taught us must be surrendered in times of imminent peril. ["Hear, hear," and applause.] The Constitution itself provided for the emergency, [hear, hear,] and the Executive had been clothed with almost autocratic strength for the moment, [hear, hear,] because the people were aware that the overthrow of a country based upon so broad and indestructible a basis was absolutely impossible. [Applause.] Mr. LEATHAM proceeded to examine the position which the South had occupied in this country, and to picture the exhibition which its sympathizers had made of themselves in the House of Commons during the present session, referring to and refuting statements made by Mr. ROEBUCK and others, showing that cotton was not "king;" that the recognition of the South would not terminate the war and give cotton to Lancashire; that the South was opposed to right, order, and the dignity of labor; that it had brought about the sufferings of the people of Lancashire by withholding and burning cotton, in order to force this country to recognize it, and assist it to attain that for which it was fighting. The grand result of interference, said Mr. LEATHAM, would be to perpetuate the conflict which was now rapidly and manifestly drawing to a close, and to lay up for ourselves and our children on one side, and our kindred on the other side of the Atlantic, an inexhaustible inheritance of bitterness and strife. [Hear.] Perish the odious thought that America must be outdone, that civilization must droop, that prosperity must be blasted, that mourning must be the garb of all her happy homes, that the red rain of war should descend and scorch our smiling fields, and all this that England might be great. [Cheers.] Let us covet the friendship and alliance of America, and then, when the sun of her prosperity, which we affected so much to dread, should have reached its noon, it should shine down, not upon one nation merely, but upon both; not envious of each other's greatness—not covetous of each other's wealth—not plotting to overthrow each other's prosperity—not seeking to intercept those blessings which a merciful Providence hath surely opened the "windows of Heaven," in order to pour down with unceasing and impartial bounty upon the head of each; but if fight we must, then fight shoulder to shoulder with the weapons of civilization in the cause of liberty and progress, and march hand in hand with sound and irresistible steps upon the pathway of imperishable reunion. [Loud and prolonged cheering.]

A vote of unabated confidence was passed to Mr. LEATHAM unanimously, and the proceedings terminated.

SPEECH BY MR. LAYARD.

MR. LAYARD, M. P., has been addressing his constituents. A large part of his speech was devoted to replying to the addresses recently made by Messrs. COBDEN and BRIGHT. He made the following direct references to American topics:

"I shall now refer to another question—the policy of England with regard to the United States. I may claim from the great mass of the English people their approval of the course which the Government have taken. [Hear, hear.] It is one of strict neutrality, but it is a difficult course to pursue. Where you observe strict neutrality you are sure to displease both sides. And the fact of our having displeased both sides shows that we have observed a strict neutrality. [Hear, hear.] I hope, however, the time will come when amongst our brethren in every way at the other side of the Atlantic—our brethren in language, in literature, and in belief—the policy of this country will be rightly appreciated. (Cheers.) It is asked why should our merchants be allowed to supply arms and munitions of war to one party and not sell ships to the other party. The answer is—there is a law to prevent the sale of ships; there is no law to prevent the sale of arms and munitions of war. The course of the Government was to carry out the law, and not to go one tittle beyond it. [Hear, hear.] The Government have endeavored to act upon the advice of those who are acquainted with the law and are its responsible advisers. [Hear, hear.] I fully admit that the rights of English merchants ought to be protected. I admit that the English merchant has a right to do all that the law entitles him to do, but I must be allowed to say that while the Government have a duty to perform, every honorable, upright British merchant has a duty to perform likewise. [Hear, hear.] I confess I have seen with deep regret that there have been parties in this country who have run the risk of plunging this country into a war with our brethren at the other side of the Atlantic. [Hear.] If more consideration were shown by those persons, and if they would give up the gains they could make by those transactions, the Government would not have such difficulties to contend with. [Hear, hear.] * * * England never stood higher in the estimation of nations or exercised greater influence than she does at the present moment. This is because she loves peace and wishes to avoid war—because she is not aggressive—and because she wishes to see every nation prosperous. It is said by the Opposition that the present Government deserves no credit for this, and that it is no better than any other Government. But if we look at what their leaders say, or at what their organs of the Press say, we find that the Government has done exactly what they would have not done. They have blamed the Government for not recognizing the Southern States, and I suppose if they had been in power they would have done so. They condemn us for stopping the steam rams, and denounce it as an unconstitutional act. I suppose they would have let the rams go out to break the blockade and involved us in war with the North. [Cheers.] The present Government have not done this—they have stopped the rams because they believed the law ordered them to do so. The Government felt that not to carry out the law would not only be an act of immorality, but that England would be the first to suffer. She of all nations is interested in maintaining law."

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

GEN. GRANT'S VICTORY.

From the London Times, Dec. 9.

The most active and successful commander whom the Federals possess has not been long in gaining what seems a substantial advantage for the Northern cause. Gen. GRANT took the command of the Army of Tennessee a few weeks since, after its defeat under ROSECRANS. His presence has not failed to reanimate the beaten troops, and completely to turn the fortune of the campaign. The Federal Government, apparently roused to greater exertions by the hopes they conceived of their new General, have reinforced his army with men and supplies of all kinds, having within the last month hurried some 50,000 men to the neighborhood of Chattanooga. Among these have been numbers of Western soldiers, the most zealous and the most efficient that are to be found in the Northern armies. To strike a great blow before the end of the year would be the natural desire of a General in the circumstances of GRANT, and when there is added to this the necessity of relieving Knoxville and saving the force under Gen. BURNSIDE or his successor, it is plain that there were the strongest inducements to active strategy. Unless the exaggeration of the published accounts passes all bounds, the attempts of the Federal General have been rewarded with success.

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It has for a long time been asserted that Gen. BRAGG did not possess the confidence of his troops. His recent success over Gen. ROSECRANS may have done something to revive his reputation, but ever since that time there has been much murmuring in his camps, and some attempts have been made at Richmond to obtain the substitution of a more able, or at least a more popular commander. If the Southern army has suffered by the continuance in command of an inefficient General, the Confederate Government will have supported its nominee at a very great cost. The Southern soldiers are described as demoralized and possessed by a perfect panic, and though this may be only the exaggerated style current in the country, it may well be conceived that a retreat under a discredited General after a disastrous battle is not likely to have been conducted with the good order which allows defeats to be remedied. But, whatever may be said of the Confederate commander, or whatever explanation may be given of the details of this battle, we think the true explanation of the campaign is to be found in the weakness of the Southern army. This has been the fatal disadvantage of the Confederates all through the war, and they probably suffer from it now more than ever. They have performed astonishing feats of arms, and feats of strategy still more wonderful; they have won victories against overpowering forces, and have transported armies from one scene to another so as to make a display of their strength which has puzzled and daunted their adversaries. But the inadequate resources of the Confederacy have been visible on more than one occasion in the Western war. While the comparatively well-populated States of the Atlantic coast have supplied the Army of Virginia with reinforcements, and enabled it to defy during three years all the power of the Northern Government, the Southwestern States of the old Union have not had the men to stand against the teeming North. The loss of Vicksburgh and Port Hudson was wholly owing to the scarcity of men, amounting almost to depopulation, in the State of Mississippi; Louisiana has not been able to shake off the hold of BUTLER and BANKS; and though the regions west of the Mississippi are not overrun by the Federals, this is owing more to their vast extent and the wildness of their natural condition than to the resistance which their inhabitants have made. The States of Alabama and Mississippi, and part of Georgia, have raised the army with which Gen. BRAGG has hitherto checked the Federal invasion of the Cotton States, and even threatened the reconquest of Tennessee. This army has been to a certain extent reinforced during the last two months, but the accessions have been small in comparison with those of the Federals. Gen. GRANT's troops from the West were a powerful force in themselves, and the Washington Government has been diligent in marching men from Ohio and other Western States to the scene of war about Chattanooga. We have little doubt that the main cause of the retreat of Gen. BRAGG from the point where he had done so much, and was expected to do more, has been the belief that at present he is not in a condition to oppose the powerful levies which have been placed under the command of Gen. GRANT.

From the Manchester Examiner, Dec. 9.

Gen. GRANT has made a successful onslaught upon the strong positions held by the Confederate army in front of Chattanooga. He has reoccupied Lookout Mountain, driven the enemy from Missionary Ridge, and compelled BRAGG to retreat, in what direction is not precisely known. By this movement, which a week ago we led our readers to anticipate, the results of the battle of Chickamauga Creek are wiped out, and the situation of both armies restored as nearly as possible to what it was before that bloody and fruitless encounter. The Federal army, facing southwards, now has its left wing on the west bank of Chickamauga Creek, and its right on Lookout Mountain, its lines from left to right passing over Missionary Ridge and the intervening valleys. But though, so far as respects the localities occupied by the two armies, the late battle merely restores them to their former relative positions, other considerations must be taken into account if we would properly estimate its effect upon the prospects of the Confederates. Their unexpected victory over ROSECRANS threw into their hands an opportunity which they failed to improve, and which will never be offered again. A fruitless victory was bad enough, but to that must now be added a positive defeat. Nor is it a mere defeat which they have suffered. They have been driven from positions which it was of the utmost consequence for them to hold, and which they ought to have been able to hold without difficulty against superior forces. Not only have they lost the chance of being able to operate hereafter against the Federal lines of communication between Chattanooga and Bridgeport—the most vulnerable joint in the Federal harness—but they are in imminent danger of being attacked in the rear, and thus compelled to abandon the neighborhood of Chattanooga altogether. Such a retreat would carry with it the final loss of East Tennessee, and probably compel the evacuation of Virginia; while it would enable the Federals to amass large stores of war material at Chattanooga, and prepare for carrying the war next Spring into the heart of Georgia. If the Confederates are hopelessly beaten at Chattanooga, their one remaining line of defence will be broken through, the railways between the Gulf and the Atlantic States will be in the possession of the enemy, and the cause of the Confederacy soon made to totter on its last legs.

From the Manchester Guardian, Dec. 9.

So far as we may presume to form an opinion respecting the last Federal victory, it contrasts favorably with most of those which have preceded it, in being attributable to superior strategy. The device of seizing beforehand a tentative position in the enemy's centre, then assaulting right and left at once, and, when the desired weakening of the middle had been thus effected, driving home the wedge through the crevice in which its thin end had been previously inserted, speaks strongly of forethought, and tends to confirm the impression that the new leader of the army of the Cumberland will be a formidable opponent for any General whom he is likely to encounter. We may fully expect to hear the loss of the day by the Confederates ascribed to the incapacity of Gen. BRAGG. On the justice of this verdict it would be premature at present to pronounce an opinion; but we cannot be wrong in saying that the want of confidence in their chief openly displayed by the superior officers in this Southern army has for some time past justified grave doubts respecting the issue of any operations which might be undertaken under his direction. The Federal Government has done itself considerable injury by its alacrity in discharging its servants for slight cause; but it may possibly be said hereafter that the Confederate authorities have erred in the opposite direction, and that foremost among the consequences of their mistake is the present serious calamity.

DEATH OF THE EARL OF ELGIN.

The London papers announce that Lord ELGIN, whose serious illness has already been reported in our columns, died at Dhurmsal'a, in India, on the 20th of last month. The deceased peer was born in London on the 20th of July, 1811. He was educated at Eton, and from Eton he went to Christ Church, where he was one of the distinguished band of scholars and statesmen, including Sir GEORGE LEWIS, Lord DALHOUSIE, Lord CANNING and Mr. GLADSTONE, who were reared in that celebrated seat of learning. He was of the first class in classics in 1832, and subsequently he became a fellow of Merton College, being then known in his father's lifetime as Lord BRUCE. We hear little more of him till 1841. In that year he married; he entered Parliament as a member for Southampton, and as a supporter of Sir R. PEEL. The election of 1841, which sent Lord BRUCE to Parliament, raised Sir ROBERT PEEL to power, with Lord STANLEY as Secretary of the Colonies. Sir ROBERT PEEL and Lord STANLEY were both scholars and statesmen, trained in Christ Church, were both prepossessed in favor of the new comer, and in 1842 offered him the Governor Generalship of Jamaica. In Jamaica Lord ELGIN had no easy task, but he acquitted himself so well that when in 1846 the Whigs had to seek out the ablest man they could find to be Governor General of Canada, they pitched upon Lord ELGIN, notwithstanding his Tory connections. Lord ELGIN carried out in Canada the conciliatory policy of his father-in-law, Lord DURHAM, and by preserving a neutrality between parties, by developing the resources of the country, agricultural and commercial, and by seeking in every possible way to study the wishes of the colonists, he, in a reign that extended over eight years, did much to quell discontent and to knit the Canadian provinces closely to the mother country. He was so successful that in 1849 he was honored with a British peerage. The next office which he was called upon to fill was that of Ambassador to China. It was on his way thither that he heard of the Indian mutinies; and the troops which had been ordered to China, in support of his mission there, were at once diverted to Calcutta. He passed on to China, and though his progress was delayed, yet in the end he succeeded in his aims; he saw Canton taken, and he negotiated the treaty of Tien-tsin, which forms the basis of our present relations with the Chinese. This accomplished, he returned to England. In the Summer of 1859, Lord PALMERSTON entered upon office once more, and Lord ELGIN became a member of his Cabinet, with the duties of Postmaster-General. What followed it is almost needless to recount. The brother of Lord ELGIN had been appointed British Envoy to China, and in accordance with the treaty he ought to have been received at Pekin. Access to the Capital, however, was refused to him, save on conditions which were considered derogatory to the British representative, and when he insisted on the right secured by treaty there ensued the disaster of the Peiho. Forthwith, in 1860, Lord ELGIN was dispatched once more to sustain the English authority, and he fulfilled his mission by entering Pekin in state, and compelling the submission of the Celestial Chiefs. Scarcely had he gained this triumph than he was appointed to succeed Lord CANNING as Governor-General of India. It is stated that he had suffered from heart complaint; and though he took great care of his health, particularly avoiding the heat of the sun, it was this malady which, assuming an acute form, prostrated him with the illness which has ended fatally. The Governor-General was in the northwest provinces: he had passed the hot season at Simla, had lately been traversing some elevated tracts in the Himalayas, and had, it is said, a few days before his illness ascended to a point 13,000 feet high. It is supposed that this exertion proved too much for his constitution, and brought on the illness which has terminated in his death.

He is succeeded in the peerage by his eldest son, Lord BRUCE, a youth 14 years of age.

IRISHMEN AND THE KEARSAGE.

Correspondence of the London Times.

DUBLIN, Wednesday, Dec. 9.

A letter from Queenstown in the *Daily Express* gives details of the landing of men there from the *Kearsage*, the same that she had taken on board early in November. She remained nine days at Brest, and it is supposed that she has returned to give back the recruits in consequence of the pressure put upon the Federal Government by Lord RUSSELL. On Monday one of Messrs. SCOTT's pilot-boats, when off the harbor, was signaled to come alongside by the *Kearsage*, and sixteen men, all belonging to the neighborhood with one exception, were put on board. The moment the men landed they were taken to the Custom-house, and then severally examined by Mr. CURGENVEN, Secretary to the Admiral; Mr. MOORE, Landing Surveyor, Cork Customs; Mr. NICHOLAS SEYMOUR, Surveyor of Customs; Mr. WICKHAM, Acting Tide Surveyor; and Mr. GREAVES, Sub-Inspector of Constabulary. The men were not very communicative in their answers, said that no reason was given by Capt. WARSLOW for putting them ashore, but that he said he was sorry to part with them. Their haversacks, with which they were provided, were then detained, and they were allowed to depart. They each of them wore a blue jacket, with embroidered star on the chest, and a sort of naval cap. They quickly spread themselves through the town, and expressed themselves in glowing terms of the fare and treatment on board the American steamer, and all seem ill-pleased with the change. The same correspondent states that the following "notice" is placed in a prominent position on the Custom-house in Queenstown:

> Mr. EASTMAN, the Consul for the United States, has waited upon me to say that he has information to the effect that a screw steamer has left an English port, fitted to cruise as a privateer against American commerce, and that a crew is to be shipped at this port. This is to give notice that any person or persons who shall be found aiding or abetting the shipment of any men for the purpose above mentioned are to be prosecuted as an offender against Her Majesty's proclamation of the 13th of May, 1862.
>
> LEWIS T. JONES,
>
> Rear-Admiral and Senior Officer on the Coast of Ireland.
>
> HASTINGS, AT QUEENSTOWN, Aug. 10, 1863.

A case which appears to involve a breach of international law was tried on Monday at the Queenstown Petty Sessions, and excited great interest. Five men, British subjects, prosecuted Capt. HOARE, of the American ship *Rising Sun*, for having forcibly kidnapped them and compelled them to serve as sailors on board that vessel, and also for having assaulted them on several occasions during the voyage and since their arrival in British waters. They stated that they had been employed at Callao to assist in loading the vessel, and that when she was ready for sea they were detained on board against their will, and compelled to assist in working the ship. They had never signed articles, nor received any wages. During the voyage they were frequently assaulted by the Captain and mate, who had also kicked them while the vessel was proceeding from Queenstown to Passage. Some of the magistrates were inclined to investigate the charge of kidnapping, but the majority were of opinion that they could only deal with the offences committed in the harbor, for which they inflicted a fine of £2 in each case. The informations have been forwarded to the Castle for the opinion of the law officers.

FEDERAL ENLISTMENTS IN IRELAND.

A Mr. JAMES SMITH, who writes from No. 60 St. Vincent-street, Glasgow, forwards to the *Times* two depositions taken at Cork by two men, named EDWARD LYNCH and PATRICK KENNEDY, regarding the enlistment of men on board the United States steamer *Kearsage*, while in Cork Harbor.

KENNEDY states in his deposition that it being circulated in Queenstown that men were being enlisted, he went on board, was engaged as a landsman, and passed the doctor. While aboard, next day, seven or eight men from Ringaskiddy, all Irishmen, came aboard, and told me they had passed the doctor. These men sailed on board the vessel. I did not, as I, when outside the harbor, as the parties were asleep below, slipped into the boat with the pilot, and came home. A boy named MURPHY, from Queenstown, also passed the doctor, and sailed in the vessel as did all the others, with the exception of VESLINE; he did not go. There were from 150 to 200 men taken on board, nearly all Irish. I saw Mr. EASTMAN, the American Consul for Queenstown, on board. He was in conversation with some of the officers on board, and remained for some time. Mr. DAWSON, the agent of the Consul, was also on board. I was told $12 a month would be the pay. After we passed the doctor, our names were registered."

LYNCH declares that having heard the rumor as to the enlistment, he and two other men, named CONOLLY and O'CONNELL, went on board. The two were enlisted and passed the doctor, but he was objected to on account of his height. He also knew of another man being enlisted and two others being taken as firemen—also a boatman from Holy Ground. There were about 200 hands on board, principally English and Irish.

RECOGNITION OF THE CONFEDERATES.

From the Manchester Examiner, Dec. 11.

The British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society have forwarded to Lord PALMERSTON a memorial setting forth that an organization has been set on foot in this country for the specific purpose of promoting an agitation to obtain, for the so-called Confederate States of North America, recognition as an independent Power at the hands of Her Majesty's Government. The seat of this new organization is at Manchester; and amongst its prominent supporters are a subordinate member of the Administration, several members of Parliament, and other gentlemen of a certain position and corresponding influence. It has lecturers in its employ, a few local committees in some of the manufacturing districts, and it has recently coalesced with another association in Manchester professing kindred objects. By inflammatory addresses to the operatives—now suffering with such exemplary patience and fortitude the many privations incidental to a suspension of trade—it seeks to obtain their support to petitions and memorials to Government and to Parliament, representing that a recognition to the independence of the Southern Confederacy will at once reopen the usual sources of cotton supply from the Southern States, and enable the mill owners to resume working full time and pay full wages to the distressed factory hands. The memorialists continue: "The mischievous tendency of such a movement must be obvious, founded, as it is, upon the grossest perversion of facts, and being essentially of a party character. It is, moreover, calculated to embarrass the action of Her Majesty's Government, in relation to the two belligerents, and to frustrate its avowed purpose of observing a strict neutrality. The Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society have felt it incumbent upon them to watch this movement, and having arrived at the deliberate conclusion that it is thoroughly Pro-Slavery, have resolved to oppose it." The memorialists then set forth the reasons which have induced them to adopt this course, and urge that the institutions of the South are of such a character as to prevent England from recognizing the Confederacy as a nation.

SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

From the Pays, Paris.

The Spanish Government has proposed to the Cabinet of Washington to submit to the arbitration of the King of the Belgians the question of the delimitation of the maritime zone, as regards the Island of Cuba. That zone, as is well known, is fixed at cannon-shot, or about three miles. Spain pretends that the distance ought to be measured, not from the coast, but from the small islands with which Cuba is surrounded. Spain is undoubtedly right, for since the invention of the long-range guns, the cannon-shot now extends to more than 8,000 metres, and in the delimitation of the maritime zones those changes ought to be taken into account. In principle, the territorial sea ought to be assimilated to the extent of ground round a fortress. The convention of Villafranca, taking into calculation the progress made in the system of artillery, extended by 500 metres the radius round the fortress of Peschiera. The same ought to be done for Cuba, and a distance of 8,000 metres measured from the coast, or three and a half miles from the islands, would only be just. Such is the question which the King of the Belgians will have to settle, if the United States Government accepts his arbitration.

ALLEGED CONFEDERATE STEAMERS IN THE CLYDE.

From the Glasgow Herald.

We understand that the Collector of Customs at Glasgow has, by direction of the Lord Advocate, seized the *Pampero*, alleged to have been built for the Confederates. In the columns of an Edinburgh newspaper of the 9th, the following statement was made:—"It was reported that Government had seized two steamers at present building at Greenock, and similar to the *Pampero* at Glasgow." We learn, however, that the statement is incorrect, Government having lately made full inquiries as to the character of the vessels on the stocks in Greenock, and were satisfied that no illegitimate class of vessel was in course of construction here.

ABOUT GEN. GRANT.

From the Montrose Standard.

Perhaps it is not generally known that this gallant soldier is a native of Kirriemuir, but, nevertheless, such is the case. Gen. GRANT's father was once grieve on Kinordie, then farmer of Ballhall, and latterly a manufacturer of Kirriemuir. The General himself, however, had something of the young Norval in him, and disdained the humble occupation of feeding his father's flocks, and sighed to follow to the field some warlike lord. Heaven not seeming to hastily grant his longing desires, he enlisted in the Life Guards; but not finding them to suit his ambitious views he "levanted," and now assumes the cocked hat in the Federal army. On hearing another praise him as being a thorough soldier, an old man, who knew him well, remarked—"Deed, he may weel be guid fechter, for he was glibe at it fin he wis a laddie."

THE PAMPERO.

From the London Times, Dec. 12.

On Thursday the Collector of Customs at Glasgow received instructions from the Lord Advocate of Scotland to seize the screw-steamer *Pampero*, under the Foreign Enlistment Act, (59th George III., cap. 69.) The *Pampero* was recently launched from the shipbuilding-yard of Messrs. THOMSON, near Glasgow, and was being fitted out in the harbor. In consequence, however, of communications to Government, Her Majesty's gunboat *Goldfinch* arrived in the Clyde about three weeks ago for the purpose of preventing the vessel going to sea. Meanwhile, the Procurator-Fiscal of the Sheriff's Court has been busy taking precognitions in the case, and the seizure of the vessel appears to be the result.

MESSRS. COBDEN AND BRIGHT AND THE "TIMES."

The following letter, addressed by Mr. COBDEN to the editor of the *Times*, was published in the *Rochdale Observer*:

To John T. Delane, Esq.:

SIR: You and I have been long personally acquainted; your handwriting is known to me; and I know you to be the chief editor of the *Times*. Under such circumstances, I cannot allow you to suppress your individuality, and shield yourself under the third person of the editorial nominative, in a correspondence affecting your personal responsibility for a scandalous aspersion on myself (as I now learn from you) as well as on Mr. BRIGHT.

Your refusal to publish my former letter is a matter so entirely within your own province, that I have nothing to say upon it, except to congratulate myself on the recent revolution in the newspaper world, which renders your decision comparatively harmless. A few years ago, the *Times* possessed almost a monopoly of publicity. Four-fifths of the daily newspaper circulation issued from its press. Now, it constitutes probably one-tenth of our diurnal journalism, and my letter will be only the more generally read from having been excluded from your columns.

But your letter proceeds to offer some most singular arguments in justification of your attack upon Mr. BRIGHT. You state that your journal had previously contained two leading articles, casting the same imputation both on him and myself, that you had challenged us to disavow your interpretation of our speeches, and that, as we had failed to do so, you accepted our silence as an acknowledgment of the truth of your interpretation—in other words as a proof our guilt! Here we have in a compendious form an exhibition of those qualities of mind which characterize the editorial management of the *Times*,—of that arrogant self-complacency, that logical incoherency, and that moral bewilderment which a too long career of impunity and irresponsibility could alone engender. I will not stop to remark on your demolition of your own pretence for rejecting my championship of Mr. BRIGHT, by the admission that you had included us both in a joint indictment.

Now, that which forms the basis of this reasoning—if such it may be termed—is an inordinate display of what I will call *Times'* egotism. Notwithstanding that your journal has now but a fractional part of the daily newspaper circulation, you complacently assume that all the world are your constant readers. The *Times* never enters my house, except by rare accident. This I know to be also the case with Mr. BRIGHT, who will, in all probability, have never seen your attack until he reads it in my letter. It is only during the session, at the Club, that I am in the habit of seeing your paper. The chance visit of a friend last Friday placed in my hands the *Times* of the previous day, when that scandalous paragraph caught my eye which formed the text of my letter to you. I was entirely ignorant of the two former attacks, which, by a droll process of reasoning, you now ask me to accept as a justification of the third. Now, let me ask you to descend for a minute from your editorial chair, whilst I illustrate this logic by a hypothetical case put to Mr. DELANE, the barrister:—Suppose that the constituents of Mr. BRIGHT were to indict your publisher for defaming their member, and that it was proposed in a consultation of lawyers, at which you were present, to set up as a plea of justification at the trial, that the same libel had been twice previously published against both Mr. BRIGHT and Mr. COBDEN—would it fail to occur to you that, in the eyes of an honest judge and jury, this defence would be considered an aggravation of the offence?

But we will assume, for the sake of argument, that Mr. BRIGHT and I are regular subscribers to, and diligent readers of, your newspaper. It is seriously contended that as often as you choose to prevent the sense of our speeches, and charge us with schemes of public robbery, the *onus* lies with us to disprove the imputation, and that, neglecting to do so, we have no right to complain if we are henceforth treated as thieves? Would it not occur to any one but an editor of the *Times* that, before we violate the ninth commandment, the obligation lies on us to know that we are not bringing a false accusation against our neighbor?

Now, a word upon the subject which has given rise to this correspondence. Nobody knows better than yourself, except the writer who penned the scandalous passage in question, that this accusation against Mr. BRIGHT of wishing to divide the land of the rich among the poor is nothing but the resort to a stale rhetorical trick (the only aggravates the character of the libel) to draw away public attention from the real issue, and thus escape from the discussion of a serious, but, for the moment, an inconvenient public topic. In order to trail a red herring across the true scent, the cry of spoliation was raised. You and your writers cannot be ignorant that the laws and political institutions of the country tend to promote the agglomeration of agricultural land in a constantly lessening number of hands. You and I know, by a joint experience which neither of us is likely to have forgotten, how great are the obstacles which the law interposes to the free transfer of landed property. Now the policy which sustains this state of things is a public question, which is not only fairly open to discussion, but invites the earnest attention and study of thinking men. In this, as in every other human concern, we must bring the matter to the test of experience; and I know of no way in which this can be more effectually done than by a comparison between the condition of the great majority of the agricultural population in this and other countries. The subject of our land laws has engaged the attention of eminent statesmen, and of our higher legal authorities; but I will venture to add—and it is all I shall condescend to say in refutation of your aspersions—that if there are two persons who, beyond all others, have given pledges throughout an ardent discussion of kindred topics, during a quarter of a century, that in debating the question of the tenure and transfer of land, they would respect the restraints of law, justice and political economy, they are the men whom your journal has dared to charge with the advocacy of a scheme for robbing the land-owners of their property for the benefit of the poor.

Judging from past experience, this intrusion of a gross personality will tend only to attract public notice to a matter which it was intended to put out of sight. It has been the fate of the *Times* to help forward every cause it has opposed. By its truculent, I had almost said ruffianly, attacks on every movement, whilst in the weakness of infancy, it has roused to increased efforts the energies of those it has assailed, whilst at the same time it has awakened the attention of a languid public, and attracted the sympathy of fair and manly minds. It is thus that such public measures as the abolition of the corn laws, the repeal of the taxes on knowledge, and the negotiation of the treaty of commerce with France, triumphed in spite of its virulent, unscrupulous and pertinacious opposition; until at last I am tending to the conviction that there are three conditions only necessary to the success of any great project of reform, namely, a good cause, persevering advocates—and the hostility of the *Times*.

I shall forward this correspondence for publication in the Rochdale *Observer*, that it may, at least, be perused by the community which has the greatest interest in a controversy which concerns the reputation of Mr. BRIGHT and myself.

I am, Sir, &c., RICHARD COBDEN.

MIDHURST, Dec. 9, 1863.

RUSSIAN PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

The Levant *Herald*, of the 2d, contains a valuable letter from Odessa, dated the 28th ult., in which we read:

"The aspect of affairs here are gloomy in the extreme. The number of arrests daily taking place of persons suspected either of direct connection, or sympathy, with the Poles, has attained a startling proportion, neither sex being spared; and we have now to deplore the loss of some hundreds of respectable people who are dragging their heavy way to the steppes of Siberia. Within the past week the arrests have been largely augmented, and it almost appears to be the determination of the authorities to spare no one who has the misfortune even to possess a Polish name.

The accounts we have received, not merely from the interior but the littoral of the Black Sea, appear to portend nothing but the most active preparations for war, and there is no concealment made either in carrying these out, or in giving expression to the war-like anticipations entertained on all sides. The fortifications at Kertch are on a scale of far greater magnitude than persons who have not seen, or heard some details of them, have any idea of. It is even asserted that the works at Sebastopol were much inferior in strength and weight of metal to those which are now said to render Kertch impregnable to any attack which may be launched against it. But there are other points where the din of busy preparation is heard. At Nicolaieff, a large number of hands have been busy night and day in the construction of light craft and the fitting out of others suitable for transport. In fact, Russia does not attempt to have what is termed a naval armament for the Black Sea, the long list of vessels whose names and number of guns have already been published being actually intended for the mere conveyance of troops; and the newly constructed vessels, although armed with heavy metal, are of so small a class that they will be of little avail as troop ships. But with all this vaunted preparation, and assuming that the work is carried on with the utmost vigor till an advanced period of the spring—the time when, we are told here, we may expect hostilities to commence—the utmost number of disposable steamers of all sizes will not amount to 70, and these will not be capable of carrying a larger force than, at the utmost 45,000 men, with stores. Under these circumstances, we may expect that it is not probable Russia will attempt any aggressive movement by land. The Russians themselves are under the impression that they will again have to act on the defensive, and that she will sustain the first attack at Kertch; hence the immense armaments now being raised there. The approaches to Nicolaieff are commanded by a series of earthworks, for which a large number of rifled guns of the largest calibre have recently arrived, and further supplies are known to be on the road. At various points of the coasts, works of great magnitude have been formed and several parties of engineers employed in tracing out fresh lines. Although some time since, our garrison was considerably reduced by the drafts required for the army in Poland and the Caucases, we have received strong reinforcements and large convoys of stores."

NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENTS IN POLAND.

HOW THE LONDON TIMES CORRESPONDENT WAS DISMISSED.

The London *Times* correspondent at Warsaw has received his *congé*. How it was done, he tells as follows:

"I could not feel annoyed at receiving, last Monday, a request from Count DE BERG to leave the Polish Capital, and Poland in general, within twenty-four hours. The invitation was conveyed to me in politest manner by the officer who some weeks before directed proceedings at the clearing out of the Hotel de l'Europe, and who, by the way, on that far more important occasion, also distinguished himself by the considerate manner in which he performed a very disagreeable task. Need I say that I accepted the invitation? The only trouble was about getting my passport *visé* for the journey; and I knew that the Commissioner of the hotel had gone out. The Colonel, in the most urbane manner, offered to assist me in this difficulty, and kindly took charge of the passport himself, assuring me that I should have it again in proper order either the same evening or the next morning. He also consulted me as to the route I proposed to take, and seemed convinced that Vienna, Berlin, St. Petersburg would each and all be nicer places for me to sojourn than in Warsaw. I was quite out of his way of thinking, and being asked whether I did not wish to go on to St. Petersburg, replied that I did, and thereupon was promised a *visa* for that city, but on the express condition that I should go straight there, which meant, of course, that I should not stop at Grodno or Wilna. On leaving, the Colonel expressed his regret at having had to be the bearer of what he believed to be a very disagreeable message, and asked me not to miss the train. I thanked him for his civility and said I would be punctual. The next morning, while it was yet dark, I was awoke by the rattling of a scabbard on the floor and a voice calling out in French, 'Please get up. I am sorry to disturb you, but I have particular orders to be at the station by a quarter past seven. I have just been knocked out of bed myself.'

'That is all very well,' I answered; 'but it is quite dark, and I have no matches, and the train does not start until half past eight.'

'My orders are very precise,' persisted my early visitor (who was a young officer of the Imperial Guard engaged temporarily in unmilitary pursuits), 'and we are already behind time. It is very painful for me to trouble you in this manner,' he added, 'but it can't be helped, and I must beg that you will throw your clothes on anyhow, and come at once. I will put seals on the doors and then all will be right.'

'Why seal up the door?' I inquired, hoping for a moment that I might be suspected of having papers in my possession calculated to throw a light on the proceedings of what the Russians call 'the subterranean organization,' and the Poles 'the National Government.'

'Only to take care of your things; I will come back here and have them sent on to you to St. Petersburgh.'

'But I can't go to St. Petersburg without clothes,' I objected.

'And I shall be too late if you stop to pack them up! However,' continued the officer, 'if you must take them, let me help you to put them into the trunk.' And together we stowed away with marvellous rapidity a miscellaneous collection of clothes, tobacco, boots, books, letters, photographs, shirts and cigars. Of course, when everything was ready the servants of the hotel made their appearance; and it was pleasing and instructive to observe that the manner and circumstances of my departure did not seem to strike them as in the slightest degree strange.

'You have forgotten your watch,' said the officer as I was going out; "and here are some more papers. Now, if you have left anything else I must send it after you, for we have not a moment to lose.' I broke my lantern in token of eternal farewell to Warsaw in a state of siege, and walked down stairs. A carriage was waiting in the court-yard, and into it stepped not only the officer and myself, but also a man in some kind of uniform and with a sabre, who did not speak French, or, indeed, any other language, (perhaps because he was not spoken to,) and who, I fancy, must have been in the regular police. The officer, it appeared, had been engaged in several affairs with the insurgents, and he conversed agreeably on a variety of topics, from politics and war to the merits of the Warsaw *corps de ballet*. At the station my guide, companion, courier and protector, saved me an immense deal of trouble, not only by seeing that my passport was properly stamped for the journey, but also by enabling me to get my ticket without delay, and superintending the registration of my luggage. He retained the passport, fearing, no doubt, that I might lose it, in which case, my ticket, available only for the day on which it was issued, would have been sacrificed, and upward of 30 rubles thrown away. Nor was the silent attendant inactive, for when I went from the ticket-office to the waiting-room, and from the waiting-room to the refreshment bar, he walked after me and, though remaining at a certain distance, yet kindly kept me in view. It was thought possible, I suppose, that my attachment to Warsaw might yet tempt me to leave the station, and regardless of the purchased ticket, and of the fact that my passport was being taken care of by the officer, run wildly back to my former quarters. At last the bell rang, and I went into the train. The officer apologized once more for having disturbed my rest, and pointed to a compartment where I should have room to lie down. I, on my part, could only thank him for having performed his rather ungentlemanly work in a very gentlemanly manner. I received my precious passport from him, and we shook hands; but it was not until the train began to move, and it was evident at last that I had left the city of lanterns and was on my way to St. Petersburgh, that the youthful guardsman thought of quitting the station."

ITALY.

AMERICAN ART AND ARTISTS—FLORENTINE SOCIETY, &c.

Correspondence of the Harrisburgh Patriot and Union.

FLORENCE, Italy, Tuesday, Dec. 1, 1863.

Having been domesticated some little time in Florence, I venture to speak of affairs with which I have acquainted myself—the condition of the American artists in this city. The war has had a demoralizing influence upon everything good, and art has suffered in a degree kindred to the depression of whatever is elevating or intellectual. In days gone by, it was not unusual to find in Florence scores of gifted Americans, seeking, in companionship with the grand achievements of the past, to kindle the æsthetic spark in their own bosoms. Now we may recite the names of the artist-residents by couples. Few have funds sufficient to vest in Europe by paying the great premium upon specie, and others have relinquished these genial pursuits to take part in the drama of war. It is well understood, of course, why Italy possesses inducements to young Americans, tending to draw them hitherward. Whatever is most prized in painting or sculpture remains here. Here are the homes of the grand masters. They passed their lives under this unchanged sky, within the embrace of these Appenines, and among the ancestors of a people whose predilections for the grand and beautiful exist in our own day. It is almost impossible in America to find competent teachers or subordinate workmen in the arts. The ragged fellows who chisel the marble for the Capitol at Washington, are Italians. They, like hundreds of their class in Italy, have served apprenticeships to sculptors, yet do not ever expect to become sculptors themselves. Their labor is confined to shaping in stone what the master hand has executed in plaster or in clay. And here living is very cheap; studios are roomy and pleasant; and the congregation of artists from all lands in these decayed cities tends to the diffusion of criticism and the perfection of style. The artists, as a rule, are sociable folk, and any well-disposed visitor is taken in care and shown the mysteries. I leave my plain lodging sometimes—dear at $4 a month—and drop upon A, or B, or C, just as he has poised his model and become absorbed in his occupation; yet he is not more ruffled than his stove or canvas, and hears my flighty opinion as gravely as if I were RUSKIN or SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS.

Very large studios, both for sculptors and painters, can be obtained in Florence for a song—say fifty francs a half year, and these are often located in some grand old convent or monastery now suppressed, where in the great middle period of history the arts took refuge and grew to marvels.

I shall only speak of some sculptors whom I have seen. The youngest of these is Mr. LARKIN G. MEADE, of Vermont, best known by his colossal statue of ETHAN ALLEN for the State Capitol at Montpelier. Mr. MEADE is at present twenty-eight years of age. He was born in a Vermont village, and commenced his career like most Yankees by "looking areound" and whittling. He obtained a piece of marble one day, and lacking any other mischief to undertake, proceeded to cut his neighbor's pig in stone. Probably many years in the future, when romance throws a shadow about his memory, said pig will rank with the fly of Protogenes, whose master tried to brush it off the portrait, or the legs of HANS HOLBEIN, which deceived his employer, while HANS left the house-painter's scaffold to take a drink. In like manner, the owner of Mr. MEADE's pig may have heard the copy squeal or strive to brush the snow off his back. But in so far as we of this day know, the pig took no rank with the Florentine bear, and no such mistakes were made.

Mr. MEADE's next attempt to startle his village was more successful. It was the day of Christmas Eve. He was observed to be sketching something upon paper, and at night, with a companion and a shovel, he repaired to the town common or square. All night he labored in the snow, and at day-break the first urchins, bobbing around to catch their playfellows a merry Christmas, beheld a singular apparition. A gigantic figure of the old year—the Recording Angel—stood upon a snowy pedestal, holding in one hand a pen, in the other a scroll. It had been frozen to marble hardness during the night, and remained there many days to the marvel of the Vermonters. It so happened that the ancient MOSES BEACH, owner of the *Sun* newspaper of New-York, was stopping in young MEADE's settlement—Brattleboro, I think, was the name. He fled to New-York and put into type three columns of matter upon the Vermonter's genius. This article was copied throughout the country, and a few days afterward the Postmaster at Brattleboro received an anonymous letter, asking to be informed as to the habits and position of the young modeler in snow. The correspondent proved to be NICHOLAS LONGWORTH, of Cincinnati, the wine manufacturer. He sent MEADE two hundred dollars, with an order to put the 'Recording Angel' in marble, miniature size. This was afterward exhibited at Washington, and obtained for the lad a stone-dressing engagement upon the Capitol. He afterward assisted in modeling BROWN's statue of WASHINGTON, for Union-square, New-York, and finally returning to Vermont at the age of twenty-three, made a proposition to the State Legislature to construct a statue of ETHAN ALLEN for the Capitol building. Repeatedly refused, he returned to the charge with true Yankee energy, and finally obtained an appropriation of two thousand dollars. He then traveled to various quarters of the State, soliciting information, personal and otherwise, relative to the hero of Ticonderoga, of whom, no portraits existing, it was necessary to make a traditional likeness merely. The statue, when finished, astonished his country folk. It was full of life and character, entirely original, and fashioned most faithfully in figure, feature, and garb. The statue is now in the porch of the State Capitol. The Legislature recently voted to Mr. MEADE another $1,000. Mr. MEADE, I believe, has projected a statue of Gen. JOHN STARK, of New-Hampshire, and a historic figure of CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS. I have dwelt at some length upon his early history, because it is essentially American and without parallel in our limited art annals. Mr. MEADE will obtain additional ability with years; for he is yet very young, and it would be the sorriest paragraph of this notice if we could state that he had achieved his highest honors. He has six or eight men in his employ, for whom he finds plenty to do, and his studio is one of the "sights" of the city.

Mr. J. A. JACKSON, of Boston, is one of the few artists who is permanently domesticated here with his family. He is known in Boston, his native city, and throughout the North for the excellence of his busts, two fine ones having just been finished, viz.: of Rev. LYMAN BEECHER and Rev. Dr. BETHUNE. His first ideal composition lies now in plaster at his studio. It is called "Eve and Abel." "The First Victim" is represented as a lad 14 years of age, clothed only in a rough skin, the folds of which help the composition amazingly. He rests upon his mother's knee and she sustains him with her hands, looking the while piteously into his face. The heaviness of death is well indicated by the drooping head and the lifelessness of the hands. Eve is the beautiful mother of man, in whose face the consequences of the first sin are just beginning to leave their lines of care. She rests upon one knee, and her glorious figure is in marked contrast to that of the dead boy, imperfectly developed.

Mr. JOEL T. HART, of Kentucky, is the third sculptor whom I shall name. America owes to him many capital statues of HENRY CLAY, one of which has just been executed for his native State. With this statesman Mr. HART had an intimate personal acquaintance. Mr. HART is a poet, also, and one of the most popular Americans in Florence.

I come now to the sculptor of most repute, HIRAM POWERS, who is probably as well known in England as in America. He is a hale old man, with a large family resident here, and it is anomalous to find one so famed abroad and at home so unassuming, original, and native as we find Mr. POWERS. He would seem to be in the right place upon one of your Dauphin County farms, among his cows and pigs and poultry. He has passed through many years from quietness to greatness, yet the man seems unconscious of the renown which he has gained. It has not raised his head one might, nor placed more decision in his tread, nor added a light to his eye. His eldest son is a photographer in Florence; his children are said to be handsome; his dwelling adjoins his studio, which is on the south side of the Arno, and not in the more frequented district. POWERS is not thought to be wealthy, though his art gives him a handsome income. He is either a spiritualist or a Swedenborgian by faith. It is odd to remark this man turning into the Café Doney of evenings, humming an old hymn, and stopping to chat with the young artists, and wearing the well-contented guise of a plain New-England villager. His buildings occupy a considerable area of ground upon the *Via della Fornace*, or Furnace-street. You come first to the sign of the younger POWERS, photographer; then, passing two doors, you read the plain announcement, "HIRAM POWERS, sculptor." A touch of the bell-rope opens the door, and entering a brick-floored vestibule or covered portal, you walk across a green yard and enter the studio upon the ground floor. It underlies Mr. POWERS' residence. There are some eight or ten apartments connected by irregular ancient passageways, and in the first of these you will probably meet the old gentleman himself, or one of his family, to say good morning, and place whatever is to be seen at your disposal. There is a visitors' book wherein you will see the names of people from every part of the world—Dukes, Earls, Viscounts and scholars. There are casts of the scores of busts which Mr. POWERS has made, arranged upon pedestals or upon shelves, and as he is almost always called upon to duplicate everything which he shapes, you will see many of the most highly prized heads either complete or in process of completion in the marble.

The Winter to come will probably witness a gay "season" in Florence, and receptions, balls, and *fêtes* innumerable have been projected. Florence, by reason of its cheapness, enables people of limited incomes to maintain luxuries which they would be pinched to exhibit at home. It is rather astonishing to witness the number and splendor of the equipages upon the great river-side drive of an afternoon. The English and Americans outshine all others in these displays. Yet, it is not always pleasant to be a resident of Florence. A certain amount of what is vulgarly known as "snobbishness" exists. The "parvenu" abroad apes the manners of the anointed, and here, as elsewhere, when a new comer is announced, the first question is "What is he worth?" and the second, "What does he wear?"

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, SUNDAY, DEC. 27, 1863.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

The price of the NEW-YORK TIMES (Daily) is THREE Cents, except of the Sunday morning edition, which is FOUR Cents.

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NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE REBELLION.

By the arrival of the steamships *George Washington* and *Mississippi*, at this port yesterday, we have New-Orleans advices to the 19th inst. There was no stirring news, but affairs in Texas were very encouraging. Large numbers of the people were giving in their adhesion to the Union. Gen. WASHBURNE was moving upon Indianola and Lavacca, and would probably occupy them without resistance. It was believed that our troops would soon concentrate at San Antonio for the final attack upon MAGRUDER. The health of the troops was good.

On the morning of the 23d, a flatboat that runs between Memphis and the Arkansas shore, in the capacity of a ferry, went to Overton on a regular trip, and seeing no signs of life about the landing, landed. She had hardly touched shore, when a party of guerrillas, sixteen in number, rushed down to the landing, and commenced firing upon her passengers and crew. She was immediately pushed out, and the crew and many of the passengers pulled out their revolvers, and used them. Two bullets struck the commander of the flat, killing him instantly. A body of troops were instantly sent over, but the band of vagabonds had departed.

The rebel chief of cavalry in Georgia, WHEELER, is again at work. Nine soldiers were captured on Tuesday last between Chattanooga and Harrison by him, and he scours the country on the line of the road to Knoxville, tearing down Union flags, conscripting Union men and picking up stragglers. The Unionists are much alarmed.

Twenty-five deserters from HARDEE'S army, who came into Chattanooga on the 23d, report that Tennessee soldiers are deserting in squads of from twenty to fifty, where the President's proclamation was received, which met with much favor by the Tennessee and Georgia troops.

The officers of the gunboat *Acacia* report that when they left Halifax, warrants were out for eight of the pirates of the *Chesapeake*, all of whom were in the city, and had been for several days, but that it was doubtful if any arrests will be made, as the police were in the interest of the rebels, and the people bitterly opposed to such a measure.

F. H. EWING, for many years at the head of the Nashville Bar, and subsequently an active and influential orator in the rebellion, has written a letter to a relative in that city, expressing a desire to return to his allegiance under the President's proposition, and advising all his friends to pursue the same course.

The story of the capture of the negro pilot ROBERT SMALL, by rebels at Charleston, is untrue. A letter from the special correspondent of the Baltimore *American* says that he was still acting as a pilot in the fleet.

GENERAL NEWS.

At the meeting of the Supervisors, yesterday, a resolution, by Mr. BLUNT, was adopted, making the *Sunday Dispatch* an official county paper the same as the *Leader* is—that is, to publish papers passed by the Board and approved by the Mayor, or passed over his veto. The Comptroller transmitted a statement of a claim he made upon the State Comptroller for a remission of the sum of $2,681 37 of this county's quota of State taxes for 1862-3, on the ground that corrections made to our assessment lists by this Board to the close of July last, reduced the assessment footings $564,500. A copy of Mr. ROBINSON'S reply to this claim accompanied the statement. Mr. ROBINSON declines to make the remission claimed, for the reason that the act of 1859 establishing the State Board of Equalization of Assessments requires them to determine the assessment of the various counties on which the State tax shall be levied, and that the amount of taxes levied upon such assessment "shall be raised and collected." Mr. ROBINSON reasons that if a county "makes mistakes in its assessments, it is a matter with which the State has nothing to do." The subject was referred to the Committee on Annual Taxes. An effort to increase the salaries of the City Judge and Surrogate from $5,000 to $6,000 per annum, failed. The Board adjourned to Tuesday, at 2 o'clock P. M.

The steamship *Atlantic*, from Aspinwall Dec. 16, arrived at this port yesterday. She brings the important intelligence that actual hostilities had broken out between the Republics of Ecuador and the United States of Colombia. The Ecuatorians had actually invaded Colombia, and captured the small town of Tumaco without resistance. Gen. FLORES, with the Ecuatorian army, 6,000 strong, was already in motion, and had announced his intention to attack MOSQUERA'S forces at Pasto, at once. The latter was concentrating his forces for battle, and it was thought his army would number 10,000 men. Much excitement existed in the Republics. Among the *Atlantic's* passengers is Ex-President BARRIOS and lady, of San Salvador.

The British steamer *Corsica* arrived here yesterday afternoon from Havana, Dec. 19, via Nassau, N. P., Dec. 21. There is no news of any importance from either place.

Lieut.-Col. GEORGE E. FLYNT, of Gen. THOMAS' Staff, while on the cars between Columbus and Cleveland, was attacked with hemorrhage of the lungs, and almost instantly expired. He was en route for his home in New-York, having received a furlough on account of his health.

Great excitement was created in the city among sporting circles and the public last evening, by the report of a desperate encounter between JOHN MORRISSEY and a well known politician, ANDY SHEEHAN. Elsewhere are the particulars of the affair.

The *Dictator*, about which much anxiety has been felt in naval circles, was successfully launched yesterday, and is another and one of the noblest of our iron-clad fleet.

The "Patriotic Reunion," at the Academy of Music, last evening, in aid of the New-England Relief Association, was a great success. The receipts are estimated at over seven thousand dollars.

The Russian Admiral and a number of his officers called upon Gen. BUTLER, at Fortress Monroe, yesterday. The Admiral says he shall send part of his fleet to winter at Annapolis, while he takes a trip to the West Indies and back.

A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial*, writing from Cairo, Dec. 24, says that Capt. YOUNG, of the Seventeenth New-York (?) said to have forged land warrants ten years ago, to the amount of two millions of dollars, was arrested in Columbus, Ky., last week. A reward of twenty thousand dollars was offered at the time the deed was committed, but he remained undiscovered until recognized by an old acquaintance. Gen. SMITH telegraphed Secretary STANTON, who ordered YOUNG under close guard. He was taken to Washington last Sunday.

Dr. J. W. ROBINSON, Assistant-Surgeon of the Second Kansas regiment, died at Fort Smith on the 11th instant. He will be remembered as the first Secretary of State of Kansas, and as having taken an active part in the councils of the Free State men in 1855-57.

The report of Adjt.-Gen. GRAY shows an aggregate of 42,426 Missouri volunteers and militia in service.

Flour and Wheat were quiet and depressed on Saturday. Corn was brisker and firmer. Oats were in more demand at buoyant prices. A fair business was reported in Wool, Hay, Petroleum, Codfish, and the principal kinds of Provisions. Cotton, Hemp, Hides, Metals, Seeds, Spices, Groceries and Whalebone were inactive. Whisky was depressed and cheaper. Tallow attracted less attention. The Freight market was quite dull, with 535 vessels of all classes in port.

Reconstruction—The Difficulty and the Remedy.

The great concern of thoughtful minds, during the prosecution of this war, has been not so much about victory, or about the sequel of victory. That the rebels could be conquered, was more certain than that they could be safely dealt with when conquered. It was plain that we had a superiority in strength, that had only to be fully and perseveringly exerted, to insure complete military success, sooner or later. The census tables sufficiently showed that. But military success is one thing; civil well-being quite another. There is many a victory in history which was not only profitless, but the very prelude of destruction. It is not victory simply that we fight for. Were that all, we might better ground arms at once. Victory, for its own sake, can gratify only pride or anger. Doubtless these were enlisted to some extent in the contest. Like the pagan deities of old, they mingle in every mortal fight. Yet they are not worthy to have one drop of blood spilt for them. It is patriotism solely that justifies this war. Not the patriotism either that lives in mere impulse. There is, indeed, something good in that, but it has no authority to require these terrible sacrifices. That can come only from the higher patriotism which has its seal in reason, and which looks "fore and after." We fight not merely because we feel, but because we think—because it is our deliberate judgment that our country can be saved through fighting, and only through fighting. The conviction is a sound one. Peace with the rebels, without disruption and ruin, is impossible. But the safety is to be gained *through* fighting, not merely *by* fighting. Conquest of the rebels is needful, but it is not all that is needed. Unless the conquest shall be supplemented by a right civil policy, the Union, even with the conquest, will be left in a condition hardly worth the saving. It is just this doubt whether that policy might be found, and recognized, and adopted, that has particularly troubled reflecting men. It is just this belief that it has been found, and that with general consent it will be used—it is just this, we say, that has done more than all things to consolidate faith in the salvation of the Union into positive assurance.

In a civil sense, the rebellion will leave us in just the condition described by BURKE "when the high roads are broken up, and the waters are out, when a new and troubled scene is opened and the file affords us precedent." The rebellion itself was unprecedented, but the Constitution showed the way to deal with it, and the census table the means. The President had no other duty but to "suppress insurrection;" and he had but to turn to the records to discover the wherewithal. The insurrection, in itself, made a state of war; and war powers came straight to him without a question. But when and how shall the war powers leave him? There is the point. The day the rebellion is conquered the state of war ceases. But shall all war power forthwith give way to civil powers? If so, the rebels, still unconquered in spirit, might, and in all probability would, use their civil powers in such a way as to make the practical working of the Union intolerable. A settled public enemy is nowhere such a curse as in civil station. Shall war power be retained after the war? That would be a monstrous anomaly—an incident subsisting after the thing itself had ceased. Such a power is impossible. If assumed it is a mere fiction, sheer usurpation, a vital violation of the Constitution of the Union. The Union lives only in the Constitution; and, surely, to mortally wound the Constitution is no way to secure the Union. It has been said—"Reduce the States, whose people rebelled, to territories, and thus govern them by territorial *civil* governors." But this is a bald subterfuge. There is no power to reduce States to a territorial condition except the war power, by virtue of which Tennessee and Louisiana are now virtually Territories, under the control of *military* governors. The President alone can exercise that war power, and he only during the war. There is no civil power in the matter. The President has no more civil authority to treat Tennessee as a Territory, than New-York. Nor has Congress. No such power was delegated to any branch of the Government by the Constitution. There is a provision in the Constitution for the admission of States, but none for the exclusion or degradation of States. The Federal Union rests on the State organizations, and the whole constitutional theory is, that both alike shall be indestructible and perpetual. It is on this ground alone that we have right to resist secession. The Government has no more right to change its relations to the States than the States have to change theirs to the Government.

Here, then, was the dilemma: War powers *over* the States could not outlast the war; and yet civil powers by the rebel States, if resumed at once, might be turned against the Union, and thus make the war substantially fruitless.

The new Amnesty Proclamation of the President, for all essential purposes, solves this difficulty. It secures the exercise of civil powers to those only who recognize the corresponding obligations. It effects this by clear constitutional right. The pardoning power, granted by the Constitution, has no restriction, but in cases of impeachment; and its benefit may be accompanied with any conditions, as was long since judicially decided. The President, in giving amnesty to those only who will take a solemn oath to support the Constitution and the Union, with all acts of Congress and Executive Proclamations relating to slaves, until judicially decided void, in effect confines civil powers, under the Federal Constitution, to such; for no one contends that unamnestical rebels have any such powers. In remitting the State machinery, which has been suspended by the war power, to the charge of those who thus reëstablish their loyalty, so soon as they have strength to run it—putting the measure of this at one-tenth of the old voting strength of the State—he secures a State Government that shall be in harmony with the National Government. This State Government can permanently secure itself against its own domestic enemies, through amendments of its election laws, or of its organic law, so as to require an oath of allegiance, of any needful comprehensiveness and stringency, as a condition for holding office or exercising the elective franchise.

By this path, civil powers may come into the place of the war powers, and resume all their old efficiency, without either danger to the General Government, or trespass upon State Rights. We do not say that this consummation may not be reached in some other way, but if so, we have failed to discover it. It seems to us that the practical wisdom of President LINCOLN was never more clearly shown than in the method of restoration he here promulgates. Of course it is not beyond the cavil of petty partisanship. No grand public measure ever was. But it will well stand the test of solid argument—whether coming from those who, in disregard of the reserved State Rights, would crush all State Powers, or from those who, in disregard of the common welfare, would leave the Federal Government nakedly exposed to any such abuse of those powers as the vengeance of a beaten enemy may dictate. It has already obtained general favor. The fact is creditable to the discernment and the sobriety of the people.

Pay of Our Soldiers.

Our Government ought to make more thorough and effective provision than it has yet done, for the prompt and regular payment of our soldiers. Much has been done to improve their physical condition, and continual agitation has worked some reform in the sanitary arrangement of the camp, but there is a greater reform still to come, and that is the reform of the pay-roll. Sooner or later this reform must be achieved, not only with the men, but with the officers. They must be put upon such a basis that they will know to an hour, when they are to receive their pay, and, by creating for them avenues for its use, they must be taught its value. As long as our soldiers are paid at long intervals, so long will they be subject to the incubus of sutlers, and so long will the vice of gambling exist in their midst to a destructive degree. A man kept penniless for months, and then given a sum which, magnified through his penury, seems a mint, must be more than human if he disburses it with judgment and economy. The chances are very strong that it melts rapidly away in dissipation, or is frittered upon objects which, in the poverty that is sure to follow, are parted with for a tithe of their value. This is precisely the position of our soldiers; they receive too much money at one time, and they do not receive it punctually. There is a wonderful satisfaction to a man who is achieving any kind of labor, in knowing that his recompense is near at hand. He can work with greater spirit, and he can employ his gains to better purpose. There are many who argue that the rule suiting the mechanic or laborer, will not suit the soldier. This is simply nonsense. The same instinct is with them, and it is only a question whether the system shall be organized, and when organized, whether the soldier shall have an opportunity of spending the pay he so fairly earns, without being taxed from one to five hundred per cent. by sutlers, or whether he is to be left to feel that his thirteen dollars per month is really little better in camp than one quarter the amount would be if paid where the avenues for its absorption were open to competition. We are just now entering upon a winter in which there will be little done by the great armies. It will be an imminent time; a time full of great consequences, even though a time of inaction. If, during this time, anything can be done that will add to the *morale* of the men, it should be considered, and executed rapidly. The alteration of the manner of paying the men is something that can be done in a day, but the relaxation of discipline that will throw the sutlerism open to competition, will have its opponents in high places, not only among civilians and contractors, who are now growing rich to depletion by it, but by army officers of elevated grades, who, as they are doing very well under the present monopoly, will not see the necessity for a change. And yet the change must come; and we will venture to say that when the hour arrives, it will be hailed by every enlisted man as his millenium, and in the same light by nine-tenths of the commissioned officers.

CAVALRY RAIDS.—Gen. AVERILL'S expedition to cut the Virginia and East Tennessee Railroad, is the latest of that grand series of raids which have illustrated the course of the war on the Union side. Though the rebels were the first to gain some successes in this line of business, their raids have long ago been completely eclipsed by our own cavalry. STUART'S dashing but really useless *razzias* sink into insignificance before the grand and daring expeditions of STONEMAN, GRIERSON, BUFORD, GREGG, KILPATRICK and others. For the characteristic of the Union raids is that they have always had some adequate military object—to cut railroad lines, interrupt communications, destroy mills and *materiel*, &c. STUART'S raids had no apparent aim other than to knock up a certain amount of horseflesh, and never resulted in any greater damage to the Unionists than the robbing of a few hen-roosts. As the war progresses, these expeditions will assume still larger proportions and greater importance. This is especially true in the States of the Southwest—the centre of production of the material forces of the Confederacy. We have no doubt that, had Gen. GRANT fifteen or twenty thousand cavalry or mounted infantry in hand, he could make immense use of them this Winter. Unfortunately, however, the starvation period, before river and rail communication were opened up, almost destroyed his mounted force; and he is now bending his energies to the creation of the cavalry arm afresh. By Spring we ought to have in our two great armies, East and West, at least fifty thousand troopers, ready to launch out on a series of raids of the largest kind. It is in their power to utterly *disembowel* the Confederacy.

The Peace (?) Congress.

Earl RUSSELL'S rejoinders to M. DROUYN DE LHUYS have not, it seems, settled the question of the Congress. NAPOLEON is still bent on realizing his *idée*, if possible. The more so, probably, because of Madam VICTORIA'S contumacy. He is reported, indeed, to be negotiating with "various European States" on the propriety of convoking the Congress "without England." Should he succeed, however, in arranging for its convocation, it may chance that other great Powers will be absent therefrom as well as "*perfide Albion*." Despite the courteous tone of the first replies of Russia, Austria and Prussia, is it quite certain that they will ultimately give in their adhesion? As they begin, like England, by demanding definitions and explanations, may they not end, like her, by declining to have hand, act, or part in the matter? The notes of these Powers are merely introductory, and contain nothing conclusive. Before the Czar can return a final answer, he must have "a categorical list of the debatable questions." Ere the Kaiser can reply definitely, he must see "the bases and programme of the deliberations." While the Prussian King cannot make up his mind till his Imperial Brother shall have "communicated to him his views respecting preliminaries." Now, simple and reasonable as these requisitions appear, they place NAPOLEON in a most awkward dilemma. There is really in them more than meets the eye. They are intimations to his French Majesty of the conditions on which the said Powers will consent to attend; and yet they impose on him the necessity of clearly defining the terms of the compact. He can, of course, overcome their several objections to his scheme, by making the concessions which he knows each secretly desires. He can propitiate the Czar and the Prussian King, by narrowing down the Polish question to a discussion of Poland's rights under the Treaty of Vienna, and he can conciliate the Kaiser by engaging to keep the Venetian question out of Court. But what would the Poles and Italians think of such tergiversation? Or, how could NAPOLEON afterward affirm that his proposed Congress would be equal to its task?

Without divesting the project of all value in fact, the French Emperor cannot subscribe to the ultimatum of the Great Continental Powers; and as he will hardly accede to this, even for the sake of winning them over to his cause, the probability is that their final replies to his proposition will be not less inimical to it, than that of England herself. But with England, Austria, Russia, and Prussia against him, is it likely that his French Majesty would be so reckless as to attempt the realization of his idea by the convocation of a Congress composed of France and the minor European States, even if those States were ready to assume responsibility which the Great Powers declined? Is it through the instrumentality of such sovereigns as the Kings of Holland and Belgium, the Kings of Saxony and Würtemberg, the Kings of Bavaria and Hanover, that he would rebuild the European political edifice? Is it before a tribunal thus constituted that he would arraign nations and potentates, whose only response to such insolence would be a declaration of war to the knife? A Congress of this character, instead of effecting the pacification of Europe, would be sure to involve it in universal strife. It would lead to the formation of a coalition, more formidable than that which overthrew the First NAPOLEON. Nor would the result be different. The minor Powers, even if they did sustain France for a while, would gradually fall away from a hopeless cause. France, isolated, vanquished, exhausted, would ultimately have to succumb, and the Bonapartes would have to purchase peace, by again abdicating the French throne, and again going into exile.

If, then, NAPOLEON cannot propitiate the Great Continental Powers, and prevail on them to sanction his scheme, save by acceding to conditions, and making concessions which would render that scheme useless, he had better abandon the idea altogether and suffer England and Earl RUSSELL to enjoy their triumph, rather than run the risk of wrecking a second time the fortunes of his family by attempting to carry out his project by means of the minor European States.

PERSONAL.—Major-Gen. DANIEL BUTTERFIELD, from the Department of the Cumberland, has arrived in the City, and will spend a brief furlough among his friends, after a long and arduous campaign in the West.

CONVENTION OF TEACHERS.—The holidays are improved by the Messrs. BRYANT, STRATTON & Co. to hold a Convention of the resident principals of their several Commercial Colleges, now located in seventeen of the leading cities of this country. The convention will be held at the New-York College, corner of Broadway and Twenty-second-street, commencing on Monday, the 28th. The exercises will be of a varied character, having direct reference to the interest of commercial education in this country, and to improvements in the same; and will, no doubt, be productive of beneficial results.

—Miss BALFE, it is said, is about to return to the stage.

THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

Culpepper Still Occupied by our Forces—Passengers to the Army.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Friday, Dec. 25.

Christmas was quietly spent in camp. No important event marked the day.

The town of Culpepper and its vicinity is now occupied by a strong force of our infantry and batteries attached.

New arrangements concerning passengers for the army have been completed and go into operation today. Passenger trains for the front leave the Washington depot, on Maryland-avenue, daily, at 9:50 A. M. and 2:05 P. M., without stoppage in Alexandria, and all army passes are vised and countersigned there by Capt. BECKWITH, of Gen. PATRICK'S staff. Passes for Virginia and other than for the army are examined at Alexandria. This arrangement tends greatly to facilitate travel in this direction. All passes must be presented for signature before 2 P. M. each day.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

DISPATCHES TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Dec. 26.

TENDER OF THANKS FROM THE RUSSIAN EMPEROR.

In accordance with instructions received from the Emperor, the Russian Minister, Mr. EDWARD STOECKL, had an audience of the President this morning for the purpose of expressing the thanks of the Imperial Government for the kind reception of the vessels of the Russian navy and their officers and crews in the United States, and also for the assistance extended at San Francisco to a Russian corvette, the *Norwick*. The communication was cordially received and courteously acknowledged by the President.

ARRIVAL OF CONTRABANDS.

Two carloads of contrabands, numbering about 150, half of whom are men, arrived here to-day from Baltimore, to which city they were sent from Prince George's County, Md. The men, not being fit for military service, are to be employed at the Giesboro cavalry camp, and the women and children domiciled at Freedman's Village, in this vicinity.

RE-ENLISTING SIX-MONTHS' MEN.

A circular has been issued from the Adjutant-General's office, a part of which is as follows:

First—The six-months' troops now in the service of the United States, who may desire to reënlist for three years or during the war before the expiration of the six months' term, will be reënlisted for the increased term, under the following regulations:

1. Where three-fourths of a regiment or other organization reënlist, the officers thereof will be permitted to retain the rank held by them under the six months' term.

2. Should less than three-fourths reënlist said force will be organized into one or more companies of the authorized strength, and officered by such officers as may be selected from the original command by the Commanding-General of the army or department. The remainder will be continued under the remaining officers until the expiration of the six months' term and discharged the service.

If the Government shall not require these troops for the full period of three years, and they shall be mustered honorably out of the service before the expiration of their term of enlistment, they shall receive upon being mustered out, the whole amount of bounty remaining unpaid, the same as if the full term had been served. The legal heirs of recruits *who die in service*, shall be entitled to receive the whole bounty remaining unpaid at the time of the soldier's death.

THE QUICKSILVER MINES.

The title to the Quicksilver Mines of California, now claimed by the Quicksilver Mining Company, will be argued in a few days before the Supreme Court of the United States. It will be remembered that at the last term of the Court, the title of the Almaden Mining Company, involving similar points, as to the surveys, was decided in favor of the United States.

Under this decision, the Government took possession of the property last summer, and in order to have the mines worked, rented the same to the Quicksilver Mining Company for a loyalty—a portion, perhaps one-third, of the net profits. By arrangement made between the Almaden and Quicksilver Mining Company, the latter was not a competitor for the renting of the property.

The stock of the Quicksilver Mining Company has recently been increased from $8,000,000 to $10,000,000. There had been erroneous impressions that the Government hdd given possession of the mines to the Quicksilver Mining Company.

NATIONAL BANK.

The first National Bank of Indianapolis has been selected as a permanent depository of public moneys. The circulating notes of the bank are being delivered.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Stationary Engines Captured.—Arrivals.

FORTRESS MONROE, Thursday, Dec. 24.

Under the direction of Col. BIGGS, Quartermaster at this place, a force in charge of Capt. AINSWORTH, Transportation Master, was sent up the Warwick River, and succeeded in bringing away three stationary engines, suitable for the running power of lumbering mills. These engines arrived here yesterday, one of which is very valuable. Col. BIGGS immediately turned them to advantage in the lumbering business for the Government in this vicinity.

The steamer *City of Hudson*, Capt. MARTIN, arrived to-day from New-York. Brig *Georgia*, Capt. LEAVITT, from Boston, arrived to-day, bound for Baltimore. Bark *Eph Williams*, Capt. WEAVER, of Baltimore, for Portsmouth. Schr. *Smithsonian*, Capt. DENNY, from Baltimore to New York, arrived to-day. Schr. *Onvit*, Capt. WILEY, Boston to Tangiers. Schr. *T. J. Bard*, Capt. HAINS, Baltimore to New-York. Schr. *R. W. Dilden*, Capt. HAZEN, Port Royal to Baltimore. Schr. *Village Maid*, Capt. FUDLEY, Newbern to Baltimore. Str. *Potomasca*, Capt. SCOTT, Port Royal to New-York. The above vessels passed the guard ship *Young Rover*, Capt. STUDLEY, to-day.

Murder at Holmes' Hole.

BOSTON, Saturday, Dec. 26.

The brutal murder and robbery at Holmes' Hole, on Wednesday evening, causes the most profound sensation in that locality. Wm. COOK LUCE, the victim, had been a merchant in the town for many years, and was highly respected. The murder was committed with a hatchet, with a blow from behind while Mr. LUCE was in the act of closing his store, and his person was robbed of considerable amounts of money. The perpetrator is supposed to belong to some vessel in the harbor.

SENATOR SEBASTIAN, OF ARKANSAS.—There have been reports circulated from time to time that it was the intention of Senator SEBASTIAN, of Arkansas, to resume, unless prevented, the seat in the Senate of the United States, which he held previous to the secession of his State. A correspondent of the St. Louis *Republican*, however, who has lately had a conversation with Mr. SEBASTIAN, gives a different account of the Senator's intentions, as follows:

He declared himself in favor of reunion on honorable terms, under the sacred old "Union as it was, and the Constitution as it is." "But, said he, "I have no seat in the Senate. I was expelled by a resolution which was passed on the false statement that I was at the time Colonel of a rebel regiment." He denied that he ever participated in the rebellion in any way whatever; but, said he, "I cannot put myself in the position of going to Washington as a mendicant for a seat in the Senate." He also criticized the policy of the Government, and said he, "the President's Proclamation made me a poor man."

PARSON BROWNLOW ON SKEDADDLING.—At a war meeting held in Cincinnati on Wednesday of last week, Parson BROWLOW gave the following good and sufficient reason for his recent "change of base:"

"I understand that this is a war meeting, and that you are assembled here for the purpose of drumming up volunteers. In this matter I am in a somewhat awkward position, having recently taken to my heels like a greyhound, and made three hundred miles in short time. In the last two years, as you well know, I have done some brave talking, which the rebels remember. Were I not sure that I should not be treated as our soldiers taken by them are—incarcerated in their lousy prisons—their Libbys and Castle Thunders—I should have staid; for I could endure the lice. I did not run out of cowardice, but I well knew that if they took me I would have to pull hemp without a foothold. [Laughter.] So I ran."

—Two literary men have lately died, leaving large fortunes. The personal property of Mr. WILLIAM TOOKE was sworn under £140,000, and that of Mr. JOHN BOYER NICHOLS under £160,000. Their fortunes were not, however, made by literature, unless printing be considered as a branch of it.

AFFAIRS IN GERMANY.

The Domestic Difficulties in Prussia—The Holstein Question—Thanksgiving Day in Berlin.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

BERLIN, Saturday, Nov. 28, 1863.

The long-expected crisis in the public affairs of Prussia has not yet arrived, although the original differences between the King and the people have not diminished during the last few months, and some new provocations on his part have strongly tended to widen the breach between them. The last Parliament, like the one that preceded it, remained firm in demanding the constitutional rights of the people before taxing them for the support of the present immense army, and, consequently, was dissolved as summarily as its predecessor. At the new election in October last, the King and his party made every effort to strengthen the small band that had previously supported their policy, but with doubtful success. The Liberal party lost slightly in numbers, but were more than compensated by finding no doubtful men in their new ranks; and as they still count in the Lower House more than six times the number of their opponents, the decision of every vote rests entirely with them. The members of the Upper House, with a few exceptions, support the King and the present Ministry.

Parliament was opened on the 9th of the present month by the King in person, an unexpected condescension on his part. In his speech, however, he showed clearly that he had learned little from his experience of the last two years, since he then declared that the concessions necessary for removing the present domestic difficulties in Prussia must come from the people and not from himself. He at once submitted for the approval of the new Parliament, the obnoxious ordinance against the press, which he so arbitrarily promulgated in June last; and he seemed to imagine that his wishes alone were sufficient to secure its adoption. This ordinance has effectually prevented every journal in Prussia from criticising the present policy of the King; since even allusions to his unpopular measures have been punished by fine and imprisonment. Foreign journals, containing objectionable articles, have been denied a circulation in the Kingdom; and among those so excluded are four German papers, published in the United States. The reception which this ordinance against the press recently met with on being presented for approval to the new Parliament, was characteristic of the two assemblies of which that body is composed. The Upper House adopted the measure without delay, notwithstanding a powerful speech against it by the able leader of the Opposition, Prof. TELLKAMPF, whose many friends in America will be pleased to learn that his political views are not less liberal under the patronage of a monarchy than they were a few years since when he was lecturing in Columbia College. In the Lower House the fate of this ordinance was a great triumph for the Prussian people. It was first condemned in the strongest terms by several members of the Liberal party, and on the final vote was almost unanimously rejected.

The domestic difficulties of Prussia, however serious in themselves, seem likely to be forgotten for the present, in consequence of the new phase of the famous Schleswig-Holstein question, occasioned by the recent death of the King of Denmark. The excitement on this subject throughout all Germany is intense, and rapidly increasing; and it is possible that the knot, which diplomacy has so long tried in vain to untie, may speedily be cut with the sword. Whether the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein are to be ruled by the present King of Denmark, of the House of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Glucksburg, or by the Duke of Augustenburg, of the House of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Augustenburg, must soon be decided. Several minor powers of Germany are ready to support the claims of the latter by force of arms, if necessary; but the question of peace or war will rest with Prussia, and her decision on the validity of the London treaty of 1852 is anxiously awaited.

The Proclamation of the President of the United States, requesting citizens abroad, as well as those at home, to observe the 26th of November as a day of National Thanksgiving, was duly respected by the loyal Americans at present in Berlin. They assembled in the morning at the American Chapel, and heard an impressive discourse from Rev. Dr. TAPPAN, late President of Michigan University. In the afternoon they met at the St. Petersburg Hotel, in accordance with the usual custom here, and partook of a Thanksgiving dinner, to which a considerable number of German guests were invited. Among the Americans present at the festival were: Hon. Theodore S. Fay, late United States Minister to Switzerland, and Mrs. Fay; Mrs. N. B. Judd, lady of the United States Minister in Berlin, and her sister, Miss Rossiter; Hon. E. D. Holton and lady, of Wisconsin; Rev. H. P. Tappan and lady, of Michigan; Prof. Franklin Carter and lady, of Connecticut; Mr. A. Woodruff and family, of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Mr. W. B. Abbot and lady, of Maine; Dr. F. P. Abbot and lady, of Berlin; Rev. Mr. Doering and family, of Pennsylvania; Rev. D. P. Keyser, of Philadelphia; Mr. G. F. Comfort, E. W. Root and J. M. McLeon, Jr., of New-York; Mr. L. Kistler, of Boston; Mr. E. Tourjée, of Providence; Mr. George Guenther, of Chicago; and Mr. C. H. Palmer, of Michigan.

The Hon. Mr. FAY presided on the occasion, and after some very appropriate remarks on public affairs at home, proposed the first toast of the evening, "The Health of the President of the United States." Mr. H. KREISMAN, United States Secretary of Legation in Berlin, made an eloquent response, and in concluding proposed "The Health of the King and Royal Family of Prussia." The next toast was, "The Union—it must and shall be preserved," and to this sentiment Dr. TAPPAN replied, showing, in the course of his remarks, that the cause of liberty throughout the world was inseparably connected with the perpetuity of the American Union. Professor FRANKLIN CARTER responded to the toast, "Thanksgiving," in an eloquent speech, in which he showed by recurring to the events of the past year that we have much to be thankful for, notwithstanding the contrary assertions of the English press. The Presiding officer next proposed the health of our United States Minister, the Hon. N. B. JUDD, of whose safe arrival in America, after a long and dangerous passage, intelligence had just been received; and certainly no toast could have been more acceptable to those of either nationality who were present, since they have all had opportunities of seeing the faithfulness and zeal, as well as the gentlemanly courtesy, with which Mr. JUDD represents the United States in Berlin. The sixth toast of the evening was "The Army and Navy of the United States," and the Hon. E. D. HOLTON made an interesting speech in reply, as did also Capt. J. C. SYMMES, of Kentucky, in responding to a similar sentiment. "The German People," was the next sentiment proposed, and Professor TELLKAMPF replied in their behalf, alluding to their sympathy with the cause of the Union in America, and to their own desire for the unity of the Fatherland. A toast to the "Universities of America and Germany" followed, and was replied to by Mr. O. C. MARSH, of New-Haven, Conn.; after which Prof. NEWMANN, the historian, made some very interesting remarks in responding to the sentiment: "America; fortunate in her History, not less fortunate in her Historians." A toast to the "Schools of America" came next in order, to which Mr. WOODRUFF, of Brooklyn, made an appropriate reply. The health of the United States Consul at Baden, Mr. B. O. DUNCAN, was then proposed, and that gentleman returned thanks in his usual happy style. The last toast of the evening was "Woman. Heaven's last, best gift to Man," and in behalf of the ladies present Mr. B. G. HOSMER, of Brooklyn, made a very witty and appropriate reply.

The Thanksgiving festivals in Berlin have long been known as pleasant gatherings, and many Americans will recollect them as among the most agreeable experiences of a residence abroad. None, however, will be remembered longer or more pleasantly than that of the present year, which was much more numerously attended than its predecessors, and was held in observance of our first National Thanksgiving.

O. C. M.

—Herr VON FLOTOW has been staying in Vienna for some time, during which he has completed his opera of "Naida," intended for the Imperial Opera-house. The *libretto* is by ST. GEORGE and LEON HA[illegible] [illegible] is adapted for the German stage by Herr D[illegible]. There are only three characters—a l[illegible] [illegible]orano, with a great deal of *bravura*; a high and [illegible] tenor, and a comic bass.

AFFAIRS IN THE WEST.

The Great Northwestern Fair—Literary and Scientific—War Matters.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

CHICAGO, Saturday, Dec. 19, 1863.

THE GREAT NORTHWESTERN FAIR.

The footings of the great Northwestern Fair, as first published, and as still going the rounds of the Eastern press, were much too modest. Since the close many donations have reached here which were delayed, and the articles left on hand have been mostly sold. New contributions have also come in, among which is a generous one of $5,500 from New-York City, solicited by P. PALMER, Esq., one of our leading merchants, from business men with whom he has connections in your City. All these have swelled the net money receipts of the Fair to a trifle over $70,000. In addition to the cash, there were donated to the Commission, during the Fair, vegetables—principally potatoes—valued at between $5,000 and $6,000. These, if anything, were better than money, for they were in a shape to be immediately forwarded to the field, where they were much needed. The entire net receipts of the Fair, therefore, are $75,000. Of this, I suppose, $15,000 came from our Eastern friends—New-York and Pittsburgh being the largest contributors.

Notwithstanding this "great uprising" of the Northwest, I do not notice any diminution in the current receipts of the Sanitary Commission. The sidewalk in front of their depository is constantly filled with barrels, and boxes, and packages of all kinds, coming and going—coming from the great hearts of our farmers, and going to rejoice the brave hearts of our boys in the field. These things, so constantly and continually kept up, show that the Northwest is thoroughly in earnest in this matter. There is no such word as give up with our westernized Yankees, or those to the manor born. The people are all right—notwithstanding we have quite a number of noisy politicians among us of cupreous propensities. The great voice which spoke in October in November, is working a cure of even these.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC.

It is barely possible that you people, down East, suppose that because Chicago claims to be the greatest primary grain, lumber and hog market in the world, that she confines her aspirations exclusively to material greatness. But this is not the case. In the first place, we have a single bookstore—that of S. C. GRIGGS & Co.—in which there are at this present moment four hundred tons, or upwards of seven hundred and fifty thousand volumes of school and miscellaneous books. The sales of this establishment the past year exceeded half a million dollars. Here is a specimen of our literary tastes. And then, we are getting to publish; but that is nothing to speak of yet—not over half a dozen works having been issued during the year. We have one of the most complete and extensive public schools in the country, and rather an over-sufficiency of embryo colleges and universities—law schools, medical schools, and divinity schools. So much for our educational facilities. There are about ninety churches in our city, which speak for our religious privileges. There is our Historical Society, which already has one of the most extensive and valuable libraries of the kind in the United States, numbering over 70,000 books, pamphlets, manuscripts, &c. This is an institution of real and increasing value. And then, we have our Academy of Sciences—not equal, *perhaps*, to the Sarbonne—but still respectable. There was a meeting last week of this Society, at which some most interesting papers were read. We have some able, enthusiastic young naturalists in Chicago. One of these, KENNICUTT, penetrated the Arctic regions in the service of the Smithsonian Institute, and remained three years in the regions of perpetual ice and snow. At the meeting of the Academy last week, he read a very carefully prepared paper on the "Great Northern Regions of the American Continent."

The paper on "Coal Formations," by Prof. DANIELS, and on "Adepocere," were interesting discussions which would have done no discredit to more pretentious institutions. The Academy is in its infancy; but bids fair to become a permanent and valuable auxiliary of science in our midst. In regard to musical taste—musical publishing, and all that relates to the harmonial art, Chicago is rapidly achieving a reputation, which must, ere long, place her beside the most favored of the Eastern cities in this behalf. Thus I have given you a brief sketch of some of our literary and scientific acquisitions, that you may know that our minds and hearts do not wholly run to pork, lumber and grain. Of course, we are a young community, and must gradually grow into all those things which constitute the higher life of man. We have to look to our material necessities at first; they are imperious, then afterwards come the æsthetics. For a city of less than a quarter of a century, we claim that we have made some progress in those better things which in all communities come with age.

A great difficulty—and I fancy a principal difficulty in this and nearly every American city in the march of civilization and refinement—grows out of the heterogeneous character of our population. For instance, in our public schools forty-three different nationalities are represented; and the people who come to us from abroad are not usually of the educated and intelligent classes, but mostly the reverse. It cannot, therefore, be expected that all these diverse elements will work together harmoniously. There will be national jealousies, prejudices, peculiarities, which will require at least one generation to overcome and eradicate. Before we can be completely successful as a people in our efforts to reach "high art," there is the work required to bring our population into some degree of homogeneousness. But still, without perfectly effecting this, we have accomplished much, and should, therefore, be encouraged to press on—*excelsior*.

WAR MATTERS.

War meetings are the order of the day. Our citizens are subscribing liberally to the fund for bounties, and for the support of soldiers' families. Mayor SHERMAN, and several others, have come forward with subscriptions of $1,000 each. There is a general interest abroad, and if money can procure men, the quota of the State will be filled. Volunteering is quite brisk, and recruits are being constantly sent forward to fill up our depleted regiments in the field.

Eleven companies of the Invalid corps arrived here on Wednesday night. They have been assigned to guard duty at Camp Douglas. The present guard, the First Michigan Sharpshooters have been ordered to the "front."

Forty-eight hundred prisoners have already arrived at the military prison at Rock Island, and 1,500 more are expected here to-night, on their way there from Chattanooga.

CHARLES FERDINAND, the Ex-Duke of Brunswick, by his attorneys, commenced a suit, a short time since, in the United States District Court here, against the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad. The title of the suit ran in the name of the Duke of Brunswick, to which the counsel for the defence demurred. After argument, the Court decided that the objection was well taken, and the Duke could not sue by his title.

The weather has been extremely cold and boisterous during the past two days, interfering with all outdoor operations. The money market here still continues close. Currency seems all of a sudden to have taken its flight almost as effectually as silver change. We do not expect much alleviation until the packing season is over, or money begins to come in again from the country. The scarcity of money restricts all kinds of business, and has a tendency to keep down prices. But still there is an upward tendency in almost all kinds of produce. The corn crop is so decidedly short that the deficit stiffens the prices of all kinds of breadstuffs and provisions. The Fall wheat has been got in in good order, and is reported to look well.

Enlistments at the South.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

It seems to me to be desirable that Congress should take immediate action to encourage enlistments in the Union service in those parts of the South that have been redeemed from rebel control. As the case now stands, a person residing in those regions has no inducements held out to him by State or County authorities to volunteer in the National cause, and it is not probable that the local Governments will be reorganized on a Union basis in season to take any very active part in concluding the war.

The disadvantages under which recruiting labors in those sections will be seen at a glance. How many volunteers, think you, would be raised in the North, if our State and municipal authorities were to stand with folded hands and do nothing to sustain the Government? And yet, other things being equal, a volunteer from Arkansas is worth more than one from New-York, inasmuch as the mere fact of his volunteering tends to bind his friends and relatives to the Union cause. I do not hesitate to affirm that 25,000 volunteers from Tennessee and Arkansas would be of more value to us than twice that number from the North. In view of these considerations, Mr. Editor, I wish you would call the attention of Congress to this subject, and urge the propriety of special legislation in order that those who have been delivered from JEFF. DAVIS' yoke may have a stimulus to serve their country at least equal to that held out to residents of our more favored regions. K.

A Uniform Day for Electing Representatives in Congress.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Your journal of the 14th inst. contains an able article advocating a "uniform day for Congressional elections," and supporting the bill now before the House for that purpose. The grounds upon which you and the introducers and supporters of this bill advocate this alteration in the practices of the election of Representatives are, that "Representatives go to Washington to reflect the sentiments and wishes of the people," being in no sense "popular guardians, selected for their personal ability and character;" that public opinion varies very rapidly, may, therefore, and often does, vary very considerably within the limits of the times between which different States elect their Representatives, (15 months,) and that, therefore, there always are in the House of Representatives some members who do not duly represent the views of their constituents at the time of its assembly, and this you state to be "at variance with the whole system of popular representation;" whereas, if Representatives were elected on one day, and that day as near the day of the assembly of Congress as possible, the views of the whole people upon the latest public questions, which had arisen previous to that date, would be distinctly represented.

These views, very plausible in themselves, and ably expounded in your journal, seem to me to be fraught with error of the most fatal kind; they are lowering to the character of representative institutions, and opposed to a proper appreciation of the high duties and responsibilities of our representatives. No theory as regards the functions of representatives exactly covers the whole ground. It is evident, of course, that members of Congress are not selected entirely for personal ability and character, yet it is not the less true that these qualities ought to be, and generally are, essential points in the choice of candidates, and that whenever they are sacrificed to other considerations, a choice is made injurious to the country, and discreditable to representative institutions. If the object in returning a member to Congress were merely to give the opinion of the people upon the individual points submitted during election, it would be necessary to appeal to the people whenever new points arose. It is quite possible, though perhaps not now probable, that during the next two years, for instance, the question of peace or war with foreign Powers, with France or England, or of the recognition of an empire in Mexico may arise. Already the question of the reconstruction of the Union upon the plan laid down in the President's Message has arisen. Upon neither of these subjects, and they are of the gravest import, was an opinion expressed during any of the recent elections. We are dependent, therefore, for our knowledge of the course which our representatives will take upon all the subjects which may arise for their consideration entirely upon their ability, character and previous political history. Everything which tends to lower the responsibility which attaches to them in their personal capacity, which tends to make them the mere mouthpieces of the people upon the question of interest which may have arisen at the moment of election, instead of representatives of the intelligence and honesty of the nation, takes from us all guarantee that our Congress shall be equal to the requirements of the nation in the great emergencies which may arise during their sitting.

Neither is it desirable that Congress should represent the opinions of the people on any one day. Popular opinion is proverbial for its violent fluctuations; yet an opinion is rarely entertained seriously by the people which has not in it some great element of truth. To represent these truths in such a manner as to avoid the sudden fluctuations of the popular voice, should be one of the chief aims of the organization of a representative body. To combine permanency with mobility, to maintain a traditional policy, while affording a certain and easy means of enabling each question of public policy to be submitted to the people, a course the very opposite of that proposed would be desirable. If the House of Representatives were elected in equal proportions at regular intervals, say one-fourth every six months, they would express the public opinion much more equably than they do at present, for it would hardly be possible for any great question to arise and be decided, without one-fourth of the House having been elected upon it, while at present there may be no member of the House representing the opinion of the people upon any question which may have arisen during its session. The alteration of the elections would tend to secure a permanent and traditional policy.

The present constitution of the House illustrates these points very well. The large body of members recently elected represents the strong desire of the people to sustain the Union at all hazards, and prosecute the war for that purpose by every means in their power, and to this end to sustain the Administration. A minority chiefly elected some time ago upon the issues of *habeas corpus*, &c., represent the equally strong desire of the people that our civil liberties should be preserved intact. It is desirable that the House should be otherwise constituted than it is. If it had been elected entirely at the time when there was a strong feeling upon arbitrary arrests and other questions of similar import, it would probably have embarrassed the Government very much in its prosecution of the war. Had the House been entirely elected just previous to the meeting of Congress, its unanimity would probably have been much greater, and there would be serious danger of important measures passing without that careful consideration which it is desirable that they should have, and which anything but a constitutional opposition secures. As at present constituted the House, while supporting with a strong majority the Administration in the prosecution of the war, and admitting that the safety of the Commonwealth is before all things, and that many measures may be justified when the country is in danger which in more peaceful times would be detrimental to the public weal, *protests* by *its minority* as strongly against war powers being abused, and guarantees us all against a misuse of that arbitrary power which tends so much to excess.

ANNO DOMINI.

The Commutation Clause of the Militia Bill.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

I have watched very anxiously for several weeks for a discussion of the merits and demerits of the proposed change of the $300 commutation clause for drafted men. I have been disappointed at your silence. To those who are beyond the age to be drafted, undoubtedly this is of little importance. But I can assure you that to thousands, no matter just now affects them so closely. I and these hold ourselves as unflinchingly loyal. We are willing to do anything to sustain the Government. And now what we want is to be informed of the necessity of the proposed change. If it can be proved as all-important to the Government, we will cheerfully submit at whatever sacrifice.

Let us put the case. There are thousands who would be seriously damaged by being compelled to enter the army, and their families would be greatly distressed. They can pay out of their own funds in hand, or by borrowing, the commutation of $300. But put it higher, or remove that clause, and it is out of their power to procure a substitute. These men have sustained the Government, and will continue to do so. Why, then, should they be distressed? Do the advocates of this measure know that the repeal of this clause will produce more anxiety and suffering than the draft itself? For it sweeps through the middle class of our population—our mechanics, our clerks, our tradesmen, our farmers. It does not touch the poor. It does not reach the rich. But it strikes a telling blow right among those who can least be spared, and whose places you cannot supply. In other words, it is a blow at the skilled labor of the country.

And now what is to be gained by this repeal? Does it help the poor man? If he cannot raise $300, can he raise a higher sum? But it is replied, it will stop the clamor at the apparent injustice of the original law. Who made that clamor? Party demagogues. And will they be satisfied at its repeal? Never. They will then carp at the injustice done to the *middle class*, as now they do at the wrong done to the poor man. And shall the Government thus punish its friends to stop a party growl? Shall those who have supported the Government by their influence and money, be smitten just to please a contemptible few, who have done, and will do all they can, to clog the wheels of success?

Let Congress be well assured how this repeal will be received by the *mass* of the people. I am persuaded that it will be a very unpopular measure, and one that will damage the reputation of every man who votes for it. Judging by the sentiment expressed in my neighborhood, among staunch loyal men, the repeal of this $300 clause will be met almost by execration. And for this reason, it will throw everything into confusion. Take, for example, a village of a thousand inhabitants, ten men are drafted; five of these want substitutes; where are they to be obtained? Persons are drafted in neighboring villages. There is a demand for substitutes. The time is short in which they must be obtained. The price rises; one bids against another, each eager to secure his substitute.

The people with great unanimity have settled down contentedly upon the $300 commutation. Many, in anticipation of the draft, have in hand that sum. It will be a gratuitous aggravation of the necessary hardships of this war, to unsettle the public mind and place each man subject to a draft, in the uncertainty in which the repeal of this commutation would put him. If any wise, needful or judicious result would be secured, we ought not object, but I, for one, cannot perceive it.

ONE OF YOUR READERS

From the first number.

A Skedaddler Meets with His Deserts.

A DESERTER SOLD FOR THIRTY DOLLARS.

From the Hamilton (Canada) Times.

The village of Kingsville, in the County of Essex, contains at present, in addition to its usual population, a number of "skedaddlers" and deserters from the American army, many of whom prefer hanging round the bar-rooms of Canada to serving their country in the field. Among the last-named class was an individual whom, for the sake of distinction, we shall call SAM. He came to Kingsville some two months ago, and, not long after his arrival, formed a matrimonial connection with a *Rose-y* daughter of the village—said connection to last during "three months, or for the war." Matters went on pleasantly for some time, and would, no doubt, have continued to do so if the fine weather had lasted, but the recent "cold snap" put an end to it in rather an unexpected manner. SAM, finding that his habiliments, although comfortable enough in the region of Vicksburgh, were not proof against the chilling influence of a snow-storm, determined to send his temporary wife off to purchase warmer clothing, and, accordingly, dispatched her to Detroit, giving her $40 for the purpose. After enjoying herself for a day or two in that city, she wrote to him that she could not make a selection, and advising him to come up and choose for himself, saying, at the same time, that he need not have the least fear for his safety, as she had made every inquiry and found there was no one on the lookout for deserters, &c., &c. SAM believed every word she wrote, and, anxious to rejoin her, took the first stage for Windsor, and, on arriving there, at once crossed over to Detroit. In the meantime, Miss ROSEY had had an interview with the Provost-Marshal, and, ascertaining that she would be entitled to receive $30 for delivering up a deserter, had posted that functionary as to her friend's anticipated movements. He accordingly had two of his deputies to watch the ferry-landing, and SAM had been ashore but a few minutes when he was nabbed and marched off to safe quarters. "Phancey his pheelinx," as Jeemes would say. His betrayer, as soon as she found her game secured, called at the Captain's office and received the money. Then, without as much as calling on SAM to say good bye, she posted off for Kingsville, where she arrived $70 better off than when she left it. Great was the commotion among the deserter's friends when the facts became known, and dire the threats of vengeance, which, however, will not likely be carried out.

The probability is that Miss ROSEY will keep shady for a week or two, and then, decked in fresh plumage, will reappear, and spread her nets for fresh victims. A cute trick has she played, but, at the same time, a piece of the blackest treachery man or woman was ever guilty of before.

Grant's Government at Chattanooga.

The following are the principal clauses of General Orders No. 7, issued by Gen. GRANT:

1. It being the design of the General Commanding the department to occupy Chattanooga exclusively for military purposes, no encouragement will be given to traders or army followers who have left their homes to avoid enrollment and the draft, and to speculate on the soldiers' pay, and this class of persons will not be tolerated at this post.

2. No permits will be granted at these headquarters, and none will be recognized unless approved by the Chief of Staff of the General commanding the department.

All resident citizens who desire to remain in Chattanooga are required to register their names with the Post Provost-Marshal, and to swear allegiance to the Government of the United States, and, if required by the Provost-Marshal, to enter into bonds, with approved sureties, in the penal sum of ($10,000) ten thousand dollars, conditioned for the faithful keeping of the oath of allegiance, under any and all circumstances.

All able-bodied male citizens not already employed by the Government, or who have not permits from department headquarters to follow their accustomed business, are required to report themselves to the Post Quartermaster, who is authorized to give them employment at reasonable wages.

7. After ten days from the date of the issuing of this order, the Provost-Marshal will cause all citizens who have not complied with the two preceding paragraphs to be removed to such point as the General commanding the department may direct.

Sutlers are restricted to the districts to which they are assigned. Citizens visiting Chattanooga have to report to headquarters, and state upon whose authority and why they come, and how long it will take them to transact their business. Soldiers and officers are not permitted in the city without passes and the city countersign.

The President's Amnesty Proclamation.

A LETTER FROM HON. JOHN SHERMAN.

From the Cincinnati Times.

JOHN MCLAUGHLIN, Esq., Chairman of the Autograph Committee, received this morning from Hon. JOHN SHERMAN, the original draft in ABRAHAM LINCOLN's own hand, of his late proclamation of amnesty, which will be exhibited at the Fair and then sold. It is written in a plain, bold hand, and exhibits its numerous erasures and interpolations. Accompanying it is the following letter from Senator SHERMAN:

SENATE UNITED STATES, Dec. 15, 1863.

MY DEAR SIR: I have the pleasure to send you the autograph copy of the recent Amnesty Proclamation of the President, the whole in the handwriting of the President, with all the additions, erasures and interlineations.

Your circular was received about the time this Proclamation was issued, and regarding it as a document of historical interest, and wishing to advance to the utmost the noble purpose of the Sanitary Fair, I with Mr. WADE waited on the President, and requested the original copy of this document. He very cordially met our wishes, but as the original copy had been somewhat defaced he kindly offered to copy it himself, retaining all the marks, erasures, notes and additions. He said if a great deal of additional labor by him would relieve the suffering of a single soldier he would cheerfully perform it. I assured him that by your agency the result of this labor would be to relieve thousands, and accordingly he furnished this document as his contribution to your noble charity.

I inclose you $50, which please hand to the proper Committee. I will send you in a day or two two autograph books, containing autographs of the President, his Cabinet and the members of the Senate, and I may be able to send you other interesting documents and autographs. I am, very truly, yours,

JOHN SHERMAN.

Gov. MCLAUGHLIN, Esq., Chairman of Committee, &c.

Mysterious Outrage.

ABDUCTION CASE IN ILLINOIS.

From the Springfield (Ill.) Journal, Dec. 21.

A private letter from a lady at Richview, Washington County, in this State, gives the particulars of a most mysterious outrage which was perpetrated at the residence of Mr. M. A. LINTON, residing about four miles from Richview, on the night of the 5th instant.

The writer states that a party of thirteen men, disguised by handkerchiefs tied over the lower part of their faces, and armed with navy revolvers, presented themselves at Mr. LINTON's house about 2½ o'clock at night, and demanded admittance. On being refused, they threatened to break down the door. The spokesman of the party was recognized as a man who had taken supper at Mr. LINTON's the same evening, under pretence of having lost his way to Hayleton, the next town.

On being admitted the party demanded GINEVRA, a daughter of Mr. LINTON's by a former marriage, a beautiful and amiable girl of sixteen years of age, who had just returned home from a boarding-school in Ohio. She having just run down stairs to see what was the matter, was seized by three ruffians and told she must go with them, dead or alive. Her father being totally unarmed, was powerless to defend her. The girl was dragged to her room, and after being allowed to dress herself, was forcibly carried to a buggy and driven off. As she was borne out at the door, she turned toward her father, raised her hands and exclaimed, "Oh, God!"

A party of eight men were left to guard the house till daylight, to prevent any alarm being given. During the night they paced around the house, knocking at the door, looking in at the windows, rattling the glass, and taunting the wretched inmates by asking how they liked evening calls, &c. No clue has been obtained to the abductors, or to the course taken by them, although a stranger whom Mr. LINTON met at a store in Richview the same day is suspected to have been one of them. Another statement is to the effect that a woman, who had been prowling around the neighborhood for some time past, was one of the abducting party.

Mr. LINTON is a Quaker by profession, and it was well known that he was unarmed.

For some time past a perfect reign of terror has prevailed in the region referred to above. It was within a few miles of the same neighborhood (at Ashley) that a number of robberies were perpetrated recently, of which we gave some account a couple of weeks ago. The vicinity is overrun by deserters and rebel sympathizers, readers and admirers of the Chicago *Times*, who are undoubtedly the perpetrators of the outrage.

THE SIOUX INDIANS WANT PEACE.—We have received reliable information from Fort Garry, that two headmen of Standing Buffalo's band of Sissiton Sioux recently visited Fort Garry, for the purpose of asking the intervention of the British authorities in making peace for them with the Americans. They represented their people as tired of the war, suffering a great deal from privations, and anxious all of them to make peace. They asserted, too, that their band had been opposed to the war upon the whites, and had only a part fought them in self-defence, none of them having had part in any massacres.

These two were, however, accompanied by a younger warrior, who breathed nothing but war and desolation against the Americans. He was, however, pronounced a great boaster, a braggart, and was not thought at Fort Garry to represent any considerable number of Sissiton Sioux.

These Indians gave to the officers at Fort Garry a description of the battles with Gen. SIBLEY, at the Big Mounds, near the Missouri, according to which they were unwillingly forced to fight by the apparent danger to their women and children, and fought desperately so long as was necessary to secure their safety. They unhesitatingly acknowledge that the Indians were whipped by Gen. SIBLEY, and were glad enough to get away from him when their women and children had crossed the Missouri.—*St. Paul Press, Dec. 20.*

RECRUITING FOR THE FEDERAL ARMY IN CANADA.—We hear complaints from all parts of the country, of American agents inducing our young men, by offers of fabulous wages, &c., to go into the States to chop wood and work in the factories, and after getting them over the lines, using coercion to make them join the army. This course of procedure is highly reprehensible, and is a direct breach of the law of nations. On the frontier, in Stanstead County, one means resorted to is to get the individual intoxicated, induce him to cross the lines, and shortly he finds himself sober under the kind care of an American recruiting officer, and duly enrolled in the American army! We learn that in many instances our own citizens act as accomplices in this nefarious business. To this latter class of persons we would give warning that in future they will be watched, arrested and punished. We would refer them particularly to some late decisions in our Courts in this District.—*Waterloo (L. C.) Advertiser.*

CLAIMS UNDER LAST YEAR'S DRAFT.—The claims for services under last year's draft are yet unadjusted. Interested parties will be glad to learn that the accounts are being audited, and will soon be paid. The following letter from Senator MORGAN contains information that will prove gratifying to many:

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 21, 1863.

Hon. George Wolford:

DEAR SIR—Your favor of the 17th instant is at hand.

I have to-day received from the Provost-Marshal-General the following answer to an inquiry I made on behalf of Mr. HENRY DAVIS, one of the claimants from your city: "The New-York State accounts are now being audited, and as soon as possible they will be placed in the hands of disbursing officers for adjustment. War Department, Dec. 15, 1863." As there are many persons in your city and vicinity interested in these claims, perhaps it would be as well to give this report publicity, as there can be no reasonable doubt but that they will be settled soon.

Very truly yours, &c., E. D. MORGAN.

—*Albany Evening Journal, Dec. 22.*

REBEL OPERATIONS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN.—A letter from Capt. HOUDLETT, Port Louis, Mauritius, Nov. 5, 1863, received in Boston, says:

"Please note for England's shame and our misfortune that another American ship has been taken into Madagascar with a full cargo of flour, butter, cheese, lard, clocks, hams, lumber, &c, which was landed and sold. A portion has been shipped to this place for sale. The brig *Howard*, which has it on board, is now in sight off the port. We are informed also one of the Confederates is on board, coming here for the purpose (so say private letters) of attempting to get a register for her. She went into Madagascar as Hamburg. Please publish this so that our Government may see the necessity of sending out men-of-war to protect our commerce, which is fast disappearing from the ocean."

A floating cloud of inconceivable fragrance surrounds the drapery that has been touched by that divinest of all toilet perfumes, Phalon & Son's Extract of the NIGHT BLOOMING CEREUS. Its equal does not exist. PHALON & SON, No. 517 Broadway. Sold by all druggists.

Gold Pens—THE BEST AND THE CHEAPEST, AT A. MORTON'S, No. 25 MAIDEN-LANE, New-York.

Genin, No. 513 Broadway,
TO HIS CUSTOMERS.
I have a large and very choice stock of goods suitable as presents for the HOLIDAYS, consisting of
LADIES' and CHILDREN'S FURS.
HATS for MISSES, BOYS and INFANTS.
SLEIGH ROBES, LADIES' FOOT MUFFS, (an entirely new article.)
GENTS' HATS, FUR COLLARS, Caps and Gloves.
LADIES', GENTS' and BOYS' SKATING CAPS, fur-trimmed.
Also a very choice lot of MINK and SEAL GLOVES for ladies' wear. GENIN,
No. 513 Broadway.

Gifts for the Holidays,
No. 500 Broadway.
Elegant novelties in Porcelain Vases, Card Receivers, Jewel Boxes, Jardinieres,
Parian Groups and Statuettes,
Bohemian and Crystal Ware,
Wax Flowers,
Unique Paris Fancy Goods.
Also, Decorated Dining Services, Tea Sets, Tête-à-têtes, etc. HAVILAND, MERRITT & CO., Importers.
No. 500 Broadway,
nearly opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel.

White's Holiday Hats,
in STYLE, FINISH and MATERIAL, UNSURPASSED.
Their RAPID SALE is a PROOF OF SUPERIORITY.
Found only at No. 216 Broadway.
N. B.—LONDON MUFFS, a NEW ARTICLE, cheap.
Also, a large stock of rich furs for ladies and gentlemen.
No. 216 BROADWAY.

Sewing-machines to Rent.
And for Sale—New.
V. W. WICKES, Jr., No. 486 Broadway,
Corner of Broome-st., up stairs.

The Best Books for Holiday Presents.—Beautifully bound ENGLISH BIBLES, UNITED STATES EPISCOPAL PRAYER BOOKS, CHURCH SERVICES, &c., in endless variety of size and price.
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE,
No. 626 Broadway, New-York.

Batchelor's Hair Dye,
The best in the world, the only reliable and perfect dye known. Instantaneous and harmless. The genuine is signed WILLIAM A. BATCHELOR. Sold by all druggists and perfumers. Factory No. 81 Barclay-st.

January 1, 1864.
The table not supplied with MENDUM'S OLD "NECTAR" BOURBON on this festive day will be deficient in one of the most indispensable luxuries of the season.
BROADWAY,
Corner of Cedar-st.

A Most Useful Holiday Present.
FISH'S PATENT LAMP HEATING APPARATUS.
Pamphlets furnished gratis.
W. D. RUSSELL, Agent, No. 206 Pearl-st., New-York.

Gold Pens.
FOLEY'S Celebrated "Bank" and extra fine GOLD PENS AND PENCILS.
Store and Factory No. 169 Broadway.

The Palmer Arm and Leg.—B. FRANK PALMER, inventor and patentee, Astor-place, (ground floor,) N. Y.; also Philadelphia and Boston. Only houses of Palmer & Co. Avoid imposition by calling on the inventor.

Nos. 290 and 292 Bowery.—The Cheapest Cash Clothing Warehouse in the City. Overcoats, $7 to $30. Business Coats $5 to $15. Pants $3 to $6.
GEO. A. HUNTER & CO.

Trusses, &c.—MARSH & CO.'S Radical Cure Truss Office, only at No. 2 Vesey-st. Also supporters, suspensory bandages, silk elastic stockings for varicose veins, shoulder-braces, &c. A lady attendant.

MARRIED.

CUMMINGS—GOODSPEED.—In Brooklyn, on Thursday, Dec. 24, by Rev. E. G. Brooks, CHARLES M. CUMMINGS to ALMA, youngest daughter of B. F. Goodspeed, Esq. No cards.

DUHAIN—FAYE.—In Brooklyn, on Thursday, Dec. 24, by Rev. Dr. Pise, LOUIS DUHAIN, Jr., to MARY B., eldest daughter of Thomas Faye.

DOOLITTLE—POST.—At Lodi, on Wednesday, Dec. 23, by Rev. George J. Van Nest, assisted by Rev. B. Basslen, J. K. DOOLITTLE, of New-York City, to SARAH B., daughter of Louis Post, Surgeon U. S. A. No cards.

DOOLITTLE—BANKER.—At Watkins, N. Y., on Wednesday, Dec. 23, by Rev. H. S. Card, ALFRED DOOLITTLE, of New-York City, to MARY E., daughter of H. S. Banker, Esq., of Watkins. No cards.

WOODHALL—BLACKHALL.—In New-Brunswick, N. J., on Thursday evening, Dec. 24, by Rev. Mr. Van Dyke, Mr. JAMES C. WOODHALL, of New-York, to Miss MARTHA V. BLACKHALL, of Brooklyn, E. D. No cards.

DIED.

BERRY.—At Flatbush, on Thursday, Dec. 25, of malignant scarlet fever, JEREMIAH VAN BRUNT, youngest son of Richard J. and Maggie A. Berry, aged 3 years, 8 months and 10 days.

The friends and relatives are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, this day, (Sunday,) the 27th inst., at 2 o'clock P. M.

CASE.—In Brooklyn, on Friday, Dec. 25, THANKFUL C. SMITH, wife of Joseph S. Case, in the 30th year of her age.

Friends and relatives of the family are invited to attend the funeral service, at her late residence, No. 310 Cumberland-st., this day, (Sunday,) Dec. 27. Her remains will be taken to Gloversville for interment on Monday.

PARIS.—In Brooklyn, on Christmas Day, Mrs. HANNAH PARIS, a native of Cornwall, England.

Her friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend her funeral, on Sunday, 27th inst., at 1½ o'clock, from the residence of Mr. Charles Bostwick, Spencer-st., near Park-av., without further notice.

PELL.—Suddenly, on Friday evening, Dec. 25, E. MESNARD PELL, son of John B. and Susan A. Pell, in the 22d year of his age.

His friends, and those of the family, are invited to attend his funeral, from St. John's Church, Passaic, N. J., on Tuesday, Dec. 29, at 1 o'clock, without further notice. A train leaves foot of Chambers-st., New-York, for Passaic, at 11½ o'clock.

SALISBURY.—At Jersey City, on Friday morning, Dec. 25, HENRY SALISBURY, in the 65th year of his age.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from St. Matthew's Church, Sussex-st., Jersey City, on Monday, Dec. 28, at 11 o'clock A. M., without further notice. His remains will be taken to Greenwood for interment.

STRANG.—At his residence, Elmira, New-York, of congestion of the lungs, on Tuesday, Dec. 15, SAMUEL B. STRANG, in the 59th year of his age.

TOUPET.—At Staten Island, on Friday, Dec. 25, of hemorrhage of the lungs, HENRIETTA, wife of Francis C. Toupet.

Friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, at the Moravian Church, Staten Island, on Monday, Dec. 28, at 2 P. M. Carriages will be in waiting at the Vanderbilt Landing on the arrival of the 12 M. boat from New-York.

YOUNG.—Postponement.—The funeral of Major E. F. YOUNG, New-York H. artillery, is postponed until Wednesday next, at 2 P. M., at the residence of his father, B. T. Young, De Kalb-av., near Marcy-av., Brooklyn.

OFFICIAL DRAWINGS OF MURRAY, EDDY & CO.'S
KENTUCKY AND MISSOURI STATE LOTTERIES.
KENTUCKY, CLASS 660.—Dec. 26, 1863.
71, 58, 49, 17, 25, 24, 13, 35, 4, 16, 61, 27.
Circulars sent free of charge, by addressing either to
MURRAY, EDDY & CO.,
Covington, Ky., or St. Louis, Mo.

DRAWING OF THE
SHELBY COLLEGE LOTTERY, OF KENTUCKY.
EXTRA CLASS 759—Dec. 26, 1863.
52, 32, 53, 12, 41, 66, 65, 37, 64, 38, 15, 73, 54.
CLASS 760—Dec. 26, 1863.
66, 16, 1, 52, 26, 8, 51, 43, 72, 20, 78, 45, 11, 23.
Z. E. SIMMONS & CO., Managers.
Successors to John A. Morris & Co.

WINES, BRANDIES, WHISKYS, &c.,
FOR THE HOLIDAYS.
MACY & JENKINS,
No. 67 Liberty-st.
Importers and Dealers.

A FORTUNE IN AN EDUCATION.
IMPORTANT TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.
A HINT TO ASPIRING YOUNG MEN.
BRYANT, STRATTON & CO.'S
International Chain of Commercial Colleges,
Established in the following cities:
New-York, Brooklyn, Newark, Philadelphia, Providence, Portland, Hartford, Albany, Troy, Rochester, Buffalo, Toronto, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Louis.
The point aimed at in these institutions is to place commercial education where it belongs—in the front rank of useful instruction. To this end a most thorough course of business training is adopted and carefully enforced under the personal supervision of competent Professors in the various departments.
The most perfect system of practical training ever devised, has been put in operation, and is successfully carried out, affording to students advantages such as have hitherto been considered possible only in connection with the counting-house.
The proprietors of these colleges have prepared text-books on
BOOKKEEPING,
COMMERCIAL ARITHMETIC,
and COMMERCIAL LAW.
All of which are pronounced by competent critics to be the most thorough and reliable works on these subjects ever published.
These Colleges stand preëminent in this country as schools of preparation for business, and their advantages over those of mere local schools cannot be overrated.
THE SPENCERIAN PENMANSHIP
is taught here in its purity, being under the personal supervision of the author, Mr. P. R. SPENCER, who is at present connected with the New-York College.
Teachers and others, desirous to perfect themselves in this most useful art, will have a rare opportunity, under the guidance of Mr. SPENCER, who, as an author and teacher, has no equal in this country.
For particulars as to terms, etc., address
BRYANT, STRATTON & CO.,
at either of the above points.

IMPORTANT.
The public are respectfully informed that I have just received per steamer *Celia*, a fresh shipment of the Jules, Mumm & Co.'s
VERZENAY CABINET
AND
DRY VERZENAY
CHAMPAGNE,
of a new vintage, surpassing in richness, fineness and delicacy of quality, any wines of the same grade ever before sent by this house. A trial of the same will convince the most fastidious.
The following houses have a supply of this shipment on hand:
H. D. FELTER.
W. S. CORWIN & CO.
MACY & CO.
W. H. JACKSON & CO.
CHAS. BELLOWS.
PURDY & NICHOLAS.
J. P. VAN ROSSUM.
JAMES MEYER, JR.,
No. 43 Beaver-st., sole Agent in the United States, for Jules, Mumm & Co.'s Champagne.

NEW-YORK COUNTY VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE,
OFFICE, No. 240 BROADWAY.

30,000 VOLUNTEERS WANTED.

The following are the pecuniary inducements offered:

COUNTY BOUNTY, cash down.....$300
STATE BOUNTY.....$75
UNITED STATES BOUNTY to new recruits...302
UNITED STATES BOUNTY additional to veteran soldiers.....100—$477
Total.....$777

Applications to be made *personally* at the office of the Committee.

GEORGE OPDYKE, Mayor,
MATTHEW T. BRENNAN, Comptroller,
ORISON BLUNT, Supervisor,
ELIJAH F. PURDY, Supervisor,
WILLIAM R. STEWART, Supervisor,
WILLIAM M. TWEED, Supervisor,
County Committee,
ORISON BLUNT, Chairman.

A 1 FURNITURE.
$150,000 WORTH OF FURNITURE,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL,
BY DEGRAAF & TAYLOR.
No. 87 BOWERY.
Offer their entire stock at lower rates than any other establishment in the City
FOR CASH.
Consisting of
ROSEWOOD PARLOR AND CHAMBER FURNITURE,
In Brocatel, Delaine and Plush,
MAHOGANY, WALNUT AND IMITATION
FURNITURE OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
All goods warranted as represented.

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SOLICITORS OF AMERICAN AND FOREIGN PATENTS,
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Pamphlets of information about patents FREE.
Specimen copies of the paper FREE.

AT J. H. JOHNSTON & CO'S.,
NO. 150 BOWERY, CORNER BROOME-ST., N. Y.
Fine gold and silver watches, rich jewelry and diamonds, sterling silver ware, bridal presents, card albums, &c., &c. We manufacture our own silver-plated ware, such as tea sets, urns, casters, baskets, forks, spoons, &c. We double-plate all that we sell, and our prices are as low as the lowest.

TABLE CUTLERY.
Fine English steel and plated table cutlery, with pearl, ivory, plated and silver handles. Also, elegant sets in cases, complete. WM. J. MILLER, No. 12 Maiden-Lane.

PARIAN MARBLE FIGURES.
GROUPS AND BUSTS.
CHOICE SUBJECTS, $10 to $100.
WM. J. MILLER, NO. 12 MAIDEN-LANE.

LADIES' BRACELETS, NEW STYLES,—TWO, THREE, FIVE AND EIGHT DOLLARS EACH. For sale by
GEO. C. ALLEN, No. 415 BROADWAY,
One door below Canal-st.

FINE GOLD SLEEVE-BUTTONS—NEW STYLES.—FIVE, SEVEN, TEN, TWELVE, FIFTEEN, TO TWENTY DOLLARS A PAIR—for sale by
GEO. C. ALLEN, No. 415 BROADWAY,
One door below Canal-st.

SILVER WATCHES OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS.—Fifteen, Eighteen, Twenty, Twenty-five, Thirty-five, Forty-five, Fifty to Seventy-five Dollars each—for sale by GEO. C. ALLEN, No. 415 BROADWAY, one door below Canal-st.

DIAMOND RINGS—TWENTY-FIVE, THIRTY Thirty-five, Forty, Fifty, Sixty-five, Seventy-five Eighty-five, One Hundred, Two, Three, Four, Five, Six and Seven Hundred Dollars each. For sale by G. C. ALLEN, No. 415 BROADWAY, one door below Canal-st.

LADIES' GILT COMBS—NEW STYLES—FROM PARIS.—TWO, THREE, FOUR, SIX, EIGHT, TEN AND FIFTEEN DOLLARS EACH. For sale by G. C. ALLEN,
No. 415 BROADWAY, one door below Canal-st.

GOLD WATCHES FOR LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.—Forty, forty-five, fifty, sixty, seventy-five, eighty-five, one hundred, two and three hundred dollars each, some with diamonds on the outside. For sale by GEO. C. ALLEN, No. 415 Broadway, one door below Canal-st., formerly No. 11 Wall-st.

IVORY INITIAL SLEEVE-BUTTONS, 75 cents per pair; Pearl do, $1 per pair; a fine assortment for ladies and gentlemen, at WELLING'S, No. 207 Centre-st., sign of the Golden Elephant.

A COMPLETE FILE OF THE NEW-YORK WEEKLY TIMES FOR SALE.—Price $4, for the year 1853. Address a note to SAM HOBSON, No. 93 Henry-st., New-York City.

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.

THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF the Sabbath School of the South Dutch Church and No. 1 of the New-York Sunday School Union will be celebrated in the church corner of 5th-av. and 21st-st. on SUNDAY AFTERNOON, Dec. 27. Addresses will be delivered by Rev. HOWARD CROSBY, D. D., and the Pastor, Rev. E. P. ROGERS, D. D. The hymns to be sung by the scholars have been written expressly for this occasion. Exercises to commence at 3 o'clock.

A MEETING IN BEHALF OF THE DESTITUTE FREEDMEN of the Southwest and elsewhere, will be held in Prof. Mattison's Church, 41st-st., near 6th-av., on SUNDAY EVENING, at 7½ o'clock. Addresses by the celebrated LEVI COFFIN, of Cincinnati; Rev. C. C. LEIGH, and the Pastor of the Church. Several of the white slave children exhibited in Mr. Beecher's Church, will be present. A Christmas sermon by the Pastor at 10½ A. M.

JOHN-ST. M. E. CHURCH—REV. J. M. CARROLL, Pastor, will preach on SUNDAY MORNING, at 10½ o'clock, and in the evening at 7½. Prayer meeting before evening services, commencing at 6½ o'clock. Seats free. Strangers are cordially invited to attend. Watch Night on THURSDAY next, commencing at 9 o'clock, with prayer. Preaching at 10 o'clock. Love Feast after preaching.

THIRTY-SEVENTH-ST. M. E. CHURCH, Near 3d-av., Rev. Dr. CURRY, Pastor.—The Tenth Anniversary of the Sunday School connected with this Church will be celebrated on SUNDAY, (Dec. 27,) at 2 P. M. Services will be of an interesting character. Addresses by Rev. ALFRED COOKMAN and Rev. F. BOTTOME. Preaching in the MORNING at 10½ and EVENING at 7. All are invited.

THE THIRD SERMON IN THE SERIES, by ministers of different evangelical denominations, calculated to show the oneness of the Church of Christ, and opposed to sectarianism, will be preached in the Freewill Baptist Church (by their kindness) in 28th-st., just west of Broadway, on SUNDAY EVENING, at 7½ o'clock, by Rev. S. D. BURCHARD. Subject, *Christian Union*.

SOUTH CHURCH LECTURES—SECOND SERIES—being discourses upon *Christian Life*, to be delivered in the South Baptist Church, (Rev. Dr. BURLINGHAM's,) on SUNDAY EVENINGS, by distinguished clergymen of different denominations. Rev. A. CLEVELAND COXE, D. D., Rector of Calvary Church, will deliver the first sermon of the course on SUNDAY EVENING, Jan. 3.

"THE REPRESENTATIVE SINNERS OF THE BIBLE."—The thirteenth discourse of this series by Rev. WM. ALVIN BARTLETT, will be delivered in the Brooklyn Tabernacle, SUNDAY EVENING, at 7½ o'clock. Subject—*Jonah*. Preaching in the MORNING, also, by the Pastor, at 10½ o'clock. Sabbath School at 9 A. M. and 2½ P. M.

THE THIRD OF THE COURSE OF SERMONS on "The Liturgy," will be preached on SUNDAY EVENING, the 27th inst., by Rev. ALEX'R H. VINTON, D.D., in St. Thomas' Church, corner of Houston-st. and Broadway. Subject—*Liturgic Worship, Natural, Rational and Scriptural.* Services to commence at 7½ o'clock.

GREENE-STREET M. E. CHURCH, BEtween Broome and Spring sts.—Rev. R. S. DASHIER, of Jersey City, will preach on SUNDAY, at 10½ o'clock A. M., and Rev. JOHN R. WARDLE, Pastor, at 7 o'clock P. M. Watch Night services commencing at 9 o'clock on Thursday evening. Seats free. Strangers and others are invited.

THE FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF the Sabbath School attached to Rev. PETER STRYKER's Reformed Dutch Church, in West 34th-st., near 8th-av., will take place SUNDAY EVENING, 27th inst. Services commencing at 7½ o'clock. Addresses by Mr. WM. E. DODGE, Jr., and the Pastor. Friends and acquaintances are cordially invited to attend.

AT THE 20TH-ST. UNIVERSALIST Church, between 6th and 7th avs., Rev. E. G. BROOKS will preach SUNDAY EVENING at 7½ o'clock, the closing sermon of the current series. Subject—*Universalism in its Claims on those who Sympathize with its Conclusions.* Morning sermon at 10½. Strangers always welcome.

GRAND DE LIGNE MISSION.—THE ANnual meeting of the Association in aid of the Swiss Mission at Grand de Ligne, will be held THIS EVENING, in the Calvary Baptist Church, 23d-st., at 7½ o'clock. Some interesting facts, gathered during a late visit, will be presented. Rev. HOWARD OSGOOD and others will address the meeting.

THE FORTY-SECOND ANNIVERSARY of the Sabbath Schools connected with Market-st. Church, will take place in the Church, corner Market and Henry sts., THIS EVENING, commencing at 7½ o'clock. Addresses will be delivered by Rev. F. G. CLARK and others. Singing by the children under the direction of LUCIUS HART, Esq.

FRENCH EPISCOPAL CHURCH "DU ST. ESPRIT," West 22d-st., near 5th-av.—Morning services, in French, by the Rector, Rev. Dr. VERREN, commencing at 10½ o'clock. Evening services, in English, by Rev. J. CAMPBELL WHITE, D. D., commencing at 7½ o'clock.

SECOND ADVENT CHURCH, BOTANIC Hall, 68 East Broadway. Preaching TO-MORROW (Sunday) by Elder H. PRATT, at 10½ A. M., and 3 P. M. Subject: *The evidences of the near coming of Christ to reign as King over all the earth.* All are cordially invited to attend. Seats free.

"A CHRISTMAS SERMON" ON "CHRIST AND LITTLE CHILDREN," will be preached by Rev. I. S. KALLOCH, in the Laight-st. Church, corner of Laight and Varick sts., St. John's Park. The sermon in the evening will be the next in the course, upon *The Cities of the Bible.*

REV. ISAAC WESCOTT WILL PREACH in the Bloomingdale Church, 42d-st., between 7th and 8th avs., on SUNDAY, at 10½ A. M. and 7½ P. M. Subject in the evening—*The War for Suppressing the Rebellion, its past progress, present condition and prospects for the future.* Sunday School at 9 A. M. and 2 P. M.

FIRST FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH, 28TH-ST.—At a meeting, duly notified, held MONDAY EVENING, the 21st inst., it was Resolved, that the supposed necessity for selling their house of worship had passed away, and that it can and shall be retained, and services continued at the usual hours.

ATHENEUM.—BROOKLYN.—REV. MATTHEW HALE SMITH will preach SUNDAY MORNING, at 10½ A. M. and at 7½ P. M. Evening subject—*The Great Revival in the Dark Ages—God's Call to Melancthon.* Sunday School 2½ P. M.

NOTICE.—DIVINE SERVICE REGULARLY every Sabbath, in the large hall, corner 4th-av. and 33d-st., Rev. R. C. SHIMEALL, Minister. Rev. W. R. LEE, of the Greene-av. Presbyterian Church, (D. V.) will preach SUNDAY EVENING, at 7½ o'clock.

CHRISTIAN ALLIANCE.—REV. C. C. GOSS Pastor. Preaching at Hope Chapel, Broadway, at 11 o'clock. Children's Meeting at 3. Rev. J. H. BURTIS preaches in the evening. Mr. Goss receives his friends, soldiers' families, and others, on New Year's Day.

THE TRUSTEES OF THE MADISON-AV. Baptist Church have engaged the Chapel of the Home of the Friendless, on 29th-st., near Madison-av., for Divine service. Rev. JOHN H. RAYMOND, D. D., will preach on SUNDAY AFTERNOON, at 3 o'clock.

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—Broome-st., near Elm.—Preaching at 10½ A. M., and 7½ Evening, by the Pastor, Rev. JAMES B. DUNN. Subject in the Evening—*Pilgrim at "Vanity Fair,"* being in continuation of lectures on Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress.

THE FIVE POINTS' MISSION, SITE OF the Old Brewery, Rev. J. N. SHAFFER, Superintendent. The principal Sunday School at 2 o'clock P. M. The many friends of this well-known institution are invited to continue their friendly visits, short speeches and material aid for time to come.

REV. SIDNEY A. COREY WILL PREACH in the Murray Hill Baptist Church (cor. Lexington-av. and 37th-st.) SUNDAY MORNING, at 10½ o'clock, and in the EVENING at 7½ o'clock.

"IS EVIL ETERNAL."—ELDER JOSEPH S. CURRY will lecture on the above subject, at Room No. 24 Cooper Institute, on TUESDAY EVENING, at 7½. All lovers of Bible Truth are cordially invited to attend. Seats free.

REV. CHAUNCEY D. MURRAY WILL preach in Westminster Church, 22d-st., between 6th and 7th-avs., on SABBATH, Dec. 27, at 10½ A. M., and 3 P. M. Strangers will be provided with seats.

IRVING HALL.—SERVICES FOR YOUNG MEN and strangers. Rev. W. H. MILBURN will lecture SUNDAY EVENING, Dec. 27, at 7½ o'clock, in Irving Hall. Seats free.

ST. ANN'S CHURCH—EIGHTEENTH-STREET, near 5th-av. SUNDAY services at 7½, 10½, 3 and 7½; afternoon for deaf mutes. Seats free. Sunday evening Rev. S. H. WESTON, D. D., will preach.

REV. O. B. FROTHINGHAM WILL HOLD the regular service in the new Church, West 40th-st., between 5th and 6th avs., SUNDAY MORNING, at 10½ o'clock.

REV. A. MOORE WILL PREACH IN THE Universalist Mission Room, corner 3d-av. and 52d-st., on SABBATH AFTERNOON, at 3 o'clock.

CATHOLIC APOSTOLIC CHURCH—16TH-st., between 6th and 7th avs. Rev. W. W. ANDREWS, will preach SUNDAY EVENING, at 7½ o'clock.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

AS CUSTOMARY,
E. & H. T. ANTHONY,
No. 501 Broadway,
Three doors from St. Nicholas Hotel,
are ahead of
ALL COMPETITION
in the
BEAUTY
AND
QUALITY
of their
PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUMS
FOR THE
HOLIDAYS,
and in their splendid assortment of
CARD PHOTOGRAPHS
AND
STEREOSCOPES AND VIEWS.
It will pay to examine their stock before buying elsewhere.

CHEAPEST BOOKSTORE IN THE WORLD.
50,000 Photographic Albums, at your price.
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200,000 Miscellaneous Books, at any price.
100,000 Photographic Pictures, 15c. per dozen.
50,000 Standard Books, half-calf—half price.
200,000 Magnificent Children's Books—make an offer.
LEGGAT BROTHERS, No. 119 Nassau-st.
Near Beekman.

THE SOLDIER'S GIFT
TO THE LOVED ONE AT HOME.
We will *deliver*, *free* of freight charge, at any Express office East of St. Joseph, Mo., any of our beautiful Albums, of the *value of $5 or more*, that may be ordered by members of the Army or Navy of the United States, as Presents to friends at home. We manufacture elegant styles at all prices to $25, and higher.
E. & H. T. ANTHONY,
Manufacturers and Importers,
No. 501 Broadway, New-York.

MONETARY AFFAIRS.

Sales at the Stock Exchange....Dec. 26, 1863.

$2,000 U. S. 6s,'81 Co.C.110⅞	36 Del. & H.Ca.Co.....171
5,000 U.S. 6s, 5-20s..Co.101⅝	200 N. Y. Cen. R..........132⅛
500 Trea. Notes 7 3-10	150 Erie Railroad Pr .. 103
Oct. & April........106⅛	100 do............b15.103⅛
35,000 U. S. 6s, 1 y.c...N 98⅛	1200 Hud. R. R............129
20,000 do 98⅛	100 do s15.129
1,000 Ill. Cou. 6s. '70 .103	200 do. 129⅛
10,000 Tenn. St. 6s. '90.. 59	100 do..........b30 129⅜
6,000 Mo. State 6s.......66	100 do.............128⅞
1,000 Hud. River B.'67.104⅛	100 Harlem R.............89½
4,000 C., B.& Q. 8s,1st. 124	100 Tol. & Wab. R..b30 50
10,000 C. & N. W. R.2d M. 75	1200 Reading R.............113
5,000 Han.&St.J.1st m. 83	28 do 112
2,000 Har. R. 3d M...c 101	200 Mich. Cen. R............120⅛
3,100 Amer. Gold........151⅛	100 M. S. & N. I. R s10 82⅛
100 Cumb. Coal Prf.....43⅛	100 do.............b30 83⅛
100 do 44⅛	150 M. S. & N. I. G'd.....130⅛
300 Am. Coal Co........94	100 Ill. Cen. R. Scrip.....117⅛
40 Han.&St.J.R.Prf'd 40	300 do.................117⅛
100 A. & T. H. R.........62	2000 Cl. & Pitts. R.........106
100 Mar. Min. Co........35⅛	100 do s15.105⅞
100 do 35⅛	100 do s15 106
200 Quick. M. Co....b30 57	200 do b30.106⅛
100 do b15 57	250 Gal. & Chi. R..........107⅛
100 do 56⅛	100 do 107
200 do 56	100 do b15.107⅛
100 do b15 56⅛	100 Clev. & Tol. R..........116⅛
100 do b30 56⅛	500 Chi. & R I.....b30.116
300 do 55⅛	100 do 115⅛
300 Erie R...............107⅛	250 do 115⅛
800 do 107⅛	200 do s60.115
200 do b10.107⅛	100 P., Ft. W. & C...s10 83⅛
200 do bnwk.107⅛	550 do 83⅛
200 do b30.108⅛	400 do b30 84
600 do 107⅛	100 Chi. & N. W...........47
600 do b10 108	350 do 46⅛

PUBLIC BOARD—1 P. M.

500 Erie R. 107¾	500 Clev. & Pitts...opg.107
1450 do...........b3.108	100 do c.107
200 do...........b5.108	300 do 107⅛
300 do.............c 107⅛	150 Chi. & R. I.........c.116⅛
300 do............s3.107⅛	250 do............b10.116⅛
2000 do............b4 108	100 do 116⅛
300 do...........s10.107⅛	100 do c.116⅛
600 Erie R. Prf..........103	100 do b3.116⅛
100 do...............c 103	100 do b10 116⅛
1800 Hudson R. R..........129	203 P., Ft. W. & C.......c 83⅛
300 do...............c.129	100 do 83⅛
300 do................129⅛	200 do ....c 83⅛
200 do...........s60 128⅛	100 do s3 83⅛
800 do..............s5.129	100 Cum Coal.............c 44⅛
200 Harlem R............c 89	400 do 44⅛
300 M. S. & N. I. R.........83	100 do 44⅛
50 do...............c 82⅛	200 Quicks. M. Co.........56
300 do..............s3 82⅛	250 do s3 56
50 do.............s10 82⅛	200 do ....c 56
300 Ill. Cen. R. S.........116⅛	100 Mar. Min. Co 36
50 do.................117	400 Q'tz Hill G.M. Co.....11⅛
50 do..............c.116⅛	200 do 11⅛
300 Gal.& Chi. R.......s3.107⅛	

SATURDAY, Dec. 26—P. M.

The Stock Exchange made another half holiday to-day by adjourning over to Monday at the close of the First Board. There was a light business done at the Board, and no considerable amount on the Street, but prices were generally firm through the dealings, and especially so in some of the Railways. They closed about as follows, compared with Thursday night. Gold was inactive and the price a fraction lower than on Christmas Eve. The Quicksilver shares revived to 60½ in the Afternoon:

	Thurs.	Sat.		Thurs.	Sat.
Gold Coin	151⅞	151½	Mich. Central	120⅛	120⅛
U.S. 6s, 1881	110	110	Mich. Southern	82⅛	82⅛
N. Y. Central	132¼	133	Mich. Guarant'd	131⅛	131⅛
Erie	107⅛	108	Illinois Cen	116⅛	117
Erie Preferred	102⅛	103	Pittsburgh	106	106⅛
Hudson	128⅛	129	Fort Wayne	83⅛	83⅛
Pacific Mail	212	212	Rock Island	115⅛	116⅛
Harlem	89	89	Galena	107	107⅛
Canton	33⅛	33⅛	Reading	112⅛	112⅛
Treas. Cer., new	98⅛	98⅛	Quicksilver	56	60⅛
Toledo	116⅛	117⅛	Cum'land Coal	43	44⅛
Northwest	46⅛	47	Mariposa	36⅛	35⅛

There was a quiet market for Money to-day, owing to the comparatively light business among the Stock brokers. The Treasury office received $3,000,000 Legal Tender from the Department at Washington, and $1,307,000 on subscriptions to the Popular Loan. The shipments of Gold to-day were $460,000. Exchange on London 165@165½ ℘ cent.

The business at the office of the Assistant Treasurer of the United States to-day was as follows: Receipts, $8,561,504 96; including for Customs, $196,000. Payments, $6,250,730 05; Balance, $30,411,241 95.

The quarterly dividends of the Panama Company have been raised to *five per cent.*, or 20 ℘ cent. a year; the first advance dividend being made for Jan 7.

The following bids for the City Bank Shares were made to-day:

New-York	115	Ocean	95
Manhattan	140	Am. Exchange	107
Merchants'	105	Bank of N. America	104
America	127	Hanover	100
City	150	Metropolitan	115
Merchants' Exch.	96	Continental	98⅛
Seventh Ward	135	Importers'&Traders'	105⅛
State of New-York	103	Park	120
Commerce	103	New-York Exch.	120

And the following for the Railway Mortgages:

N. Y. Cen. 6s	104	Illinois Cen. '75	118⅛
N.Y. Cen., Real Est.	101	Al. & T. H. 2ds pref.	90
N. Y. Cen. 6s. Sub.	101	Al. & T. H 2ds. Inc.	81
N. Y. Cen. 7s '64	100	Chi. & N. W. S. F.	104
N. Y. Cen. 7s, '76	115	Chi. & N. W. firsts	91
Erie fourths, '80	108	Chi. & N. W 2ds	74⅛
Erie fifths, '88	104	Tol. & Wab. 1sts	100
Buff., N.Y.&E. 1sts,'77	103⅛	Tol. & Wab. seconds	86⅛
Hudson R. bds	104⅛	Gal. & Chi. Ex	112
Harlem, 1sts '69 & '73	107	Clev. & Tol. S. F.	110
Har. seconds, '64	101	Pitts. Ft. W. & C. 1sts	107
Har. 3ds, '68	101	Pitts. Ft. W. & C. 2ds	103
Mich. C. New 1sts '82	121	Pitts., Ft. W. & C. 3ds	86⅛
Chi. B. & Q. 1sts	124	Clev. & Pitts. 4ths	86
Michigan S. seconds	104	Miss. & Mo. L. G.	60
Mich. S.&N.I. S.F.	108		

BATTLES OF CORINTH AND HATCHIE.

Official Report of Gen. Grant.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE TENNESSEE, JACKSON, Tenn., Oct. 30, 1863.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the accompanying reports of the battles of Corinth and of the Hatchie, fought on the 3d, 4th and 5th inst., together with a short statement of the preparations made to receive the enemy, and of orders given previous to and during the engagement.

From information brought in by scouts, who were constantly kept out by Gen. ROSECRANS, from Corinth, and Gen. HURLBUT, from Bolivar, it was evident for a number of days before the final attack upon Corinth that that place or Bolivar was to be assailed. From the dispositions made by the enemy of his forces, it was impossible to tell which place would be the one selected for the attack.

My main bodies of troops were at these two places; but to reinforce one from the other would have invited an attack upon the weaker place. I was compelled, therefore, to leave my forces where they were until the enemy fully exhibited his plans.

At this time PRICE was at Ripley with his force. VAN DORN was at La Grange, with cavalry thrown out to the neighborhood of Somerville and Villipigue and LOVELL probably at Salem. The disposition made of his cavalry, VAN DORN was enabled to move from La Grange to Ripley without being discovered. This I learned on the 3d inst. by dispatches from both Gen. ROSECRANS and Gen. HURLBUT. This demonstrated early a design on the part of the enemy to attack Corinth. I accordingly notified Gen. ROSECRANS, commanding Corinth, of the probable intention of the rebels to try to get in north of Corinth and cut the road between that and Bethel, and directed him to concentrate all his forces at or near Corinth, instructions having been previously given him to break up Iuka, and bring his forces in the neighborhood of Corinth, and at the same time directed Gen. HURLBUT, commanding Bolivar, to watch the movements of the enemy to the east and northeast of Bolivar, and if a chance occurred, to attack him with all the force he could spare, holding his entire force in readiness for action.

To save the bridge six miles south of Bolivar, I ordered two regiments from here under Col. LAWLER. It had the desired effect, and compelled the enemy to cut the road nearer Corinth, and where the damage could not be made serious.

Gen. ROSECRANS was immediately informed of this disposition of troops. He was also directed to send back to Jackson all cars and locomotives. This I regarded as a necessary precaution, and subsequent events proved it to be so. I also ordered troops from Bolivar to increase the force on the important bridges north of that place. On the 2d I permitted the train to run to Corinth, but informed Gen. ROSECRANS that the enemy had crossed the Hatchie with the intention of cutting the railroad, and directed him to send the train back that night; that the enemy's pickets only were then across the stream; and also told him if opportunity occurred, to attack, but to inform me so that I might order Bolivar forces to his assistance.

There was no attack made on the 2d, however, but Gen. ROSECRANS pushed out toward Chewalla, where he was attacked on the following day.

On the 3d I ordered Gen. HURLBUT, who had been previously ordered to be in readiness to move at any moment, to march upon the enemy's rear by way of Pocahontas; also sent two regiments from here, under Col. STEVENSON, of the Seventh Missouri, to join Col. LAWLER at the bridge, six miles south of Bethel, and put the whole under Gen. MCPHERSON, with directions to reach Corinth at the earliest possible moment. Owing to the cutting of the railroad and telegraph on the 2d, the train of cars sent on that day could not return, and all the communication between Gen. ROSECRANS and myself had to be sent by couriers from Bethel. The enemy occupying the direct road to Corinth, compelled the couriers to take a circuitous route by way of Farmington, thus separating Gen. ROSECRANS and myself some seven or eight hours.

For the battles fought on the 3d, 4th, and 5th, see accompanying reports. Not having been present, I can only judge of the conduct of the troops by these reports and results.

I had informed Gen. ROSECRANS where Gens. ORD and HURLBUT would be, and directed him to follow up the enemy the moment he began to retreat; to follow him to Bolivar, if he should fall upon ORD's command and drive it thus far. As shown by the reports, the enemy was repulsed at Corinth, at 11 A. M., on the 4th, and not followed until next morning.

Two days' hard fighting, without rest, probably had so fatigued the troops as to make earlier pursuit impracticable. I regretted this, as the enemy would have been compelled to abandon most of his artillery and transportation in the difficult roads of the Hatchie crossing, had the pursuit commenced then.

The victory was most triumphant as it was, however, and all praise is due officers and men for their undaunted courage and obstinate resistance against an enemy outnumbering them as three to two.

When it became evident that an attack would be made, I drew off from the guard along the line of the railroad all the troops that could possibly be spared (six regiments) to reinforce Corinth and Bolivar. As before stated, four of these were sent under Gen. MCPHERSON to the former place, and formed the advance in the pursuit. Two were sent to Bolivar, and gave that much additional force to be spared to operate on the enemy's rear.

When I ascertained that the enemy had succeeded in crossing the Hatchie, I ordered a discontinuance of the pursuit. Before this order reached them, the advance infantry force had reached Ripley, and the cavalry had gone beyond, possibly twenty miles. This I regarded, and yet regard, as absolutely necessary to the safety of our army. They could not have possibly caught the enemy before reaching his fortifications at Holly Springs, and where a garrison of several thousand troops were left that were not engaged in the battle of Corinth. Our own troops would have suffered for food, and suffered greatly from fatigue. Finding that the pursuit had followed so far, and that our forces were very much scattered, I immediately ordered an advance from Bolivar to be made to cover the return of the Corinth forces. They went as far south as Davis' Mills, about seven miles south of Grand Junction, drove a small rebel garrison from there, and entirely destroyed the railroad bridge at that place.

The accompanying reports show fully all the casualties and other results of these battles.

I am, Colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT, Maj.-Gen. Com.

Col. J. C. KELTON, Assist.-Adjt.-General, Washington, D. C.

WHEELER'S RAID INTO TENNESSEE.

Official Report of Maj.-Gen. Thomas.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND, CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Nov. 24, 1863.

GENERAL: Inclosed herewith I have the honor to transmit the reports of Brig.-Gen. ROBERT B. MITCHELL, late Chief of Cavalry of this Department, Brig.-Gen. GEORGE CROOK, Col. E. M. MCCOOK, and their subordinates, in their chase of the rebel Gen. JOSEPH WHEELER during his raid into Middle Tennessee and upon our communications, early in October last.

Gen. CROOK had been stationed at Washington, Tenn., with a force of 2,000 effective men with which to guard the river for a distance of fifty miles up and down from near that place. On the 30th of September he reported by courier to Major-Gen. ROSECRANS that the enemy was trying to cross at Cottonport Ferry, and the next day from Smith's Cross-Roads that he had crossed a force subsequently ascertained to number from 5,000 to 6,000 men. He was ordered by Gen. ROSECRANS to gather together all the cavalry and mounted infantry that he could, and start in pursuit. The pursuit was pushed most vigorously, and the rear-guard of the enemy overtaken about two miles from McMinnville, and here, as at every other point where overtaken, they were charged with the sabre, before which they could not stand. At Farmington our forces under Gen. CROOK had a severe engagement with the enemy, capturing four guns and compelling him to retreat, although his numbers far exceeded ours. The pursuit was kept up with vigor until he finally crossed the Tennessee River, leaving his rear-guard and two more pieces of artillery in Gen. CROOK's hands. For the particulars of the operations of his command, I refer you to his report.

The route taken by WHEELER in this raid was from Cottonport across Waldron's Ridge and the Cumberland Mountains to McMinnville; thence by way of Murfreesboro, Shelbyville, Farmington and Pulaski, to a ford of the Tennessee, about three miles above the mouth of Elk River, which he crossed on the 9th of October.

Brig.-Gen. MITCHELL joined in the pursuit on the 4th of October, moving from Anderson's Gap on that day with the First division of cavalry up the Sequatchie Valley through Dunlap, and continued on after leaving McMinnville, until he overtook Brig.-Gen. CROOK at Murfreesboro, where he assumed command, the whole force being concentrated seven miles from Shelbyville.

Col. E. MCCOOK started in pursuit on the 1st of October from Bridgeport, and proceeded as far as he was ordered, namely, to Anderson's Cross Roads, where he had an engagement with the enemy which reflect great credit upon himself and his men.

I refer you to the report of the last-named officers for particulars.

Col. A. O. MILLER, Seventy-second regiment Indiana volunteers, commanding the mounted infantry, also started in pursuit, Sept. 30, from Blythe's Ferry, and joined Gen. MITCHELL in time to assist him in driving the rebel RODDY with his command out of North Alabama.

This pursuit is unsurpassed for its energy and the bravery and endurance of the officers and men engaged in it, and prevented the execution of an extensive plan of destruction to our communications, and plunder, rapine and murder throughout Middle Tennessee and Northern Alabama, in which RODDY and LEE were to coöperate with WHEELER. It cost the enemy six pieces of artillery and about 2,000 men, including the killed, captured and deserted.

Inclosed I also send some papers captured from the rebels near Trenton, by a scouting party from Gen. HOOKER's command, among which is an official report of his raid by the rebel WHEELER himself, in which he forgets to mention the loss of four of his guns at Farmington. His report is probably equally truthful in other respects.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE H. THOMAS, Maj.-Gen. U. S. V. Com.

Brig.-Gen. L. THOMAS, Adj't.-Gen. U. S. A., Washington, D. C.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES.—This well-known paper is, we think, by far the best of the New-York dailies, and has a very large circulation. It is unfalteringly loyal, boldly discusses all questions of public interest, and advocates every just measure tending to the benefit of the people. Its general correspondence, both foreign and domestic, is fresh and full, and its columns are always filled with the latest intelligence from all quarters of the globe. Special attention is paid to market reports and agricultural affairs, by competent editors, and its information in this particular may be relied upon as always correct. —*Fishkill Standard.*

Movements of European Steamers.

FROM AMERICA.

Hibernia	Dec. 29	Boston	Liverpool.
Australasian	Dec. 30	New-York	Liverpool.
Asia	Jan. 1	Boston	Liverpool.
Edinburgh	Jan. 2	New-York	Liverpool.
Germania	Jan. 9	New-York	Southampton
Adriatic	Jan. 12	New-York	Liverpool.
China	Jan. 13	New-York	Liverpool.
Africa	Jan. 20	Boston	Liverpool.
Bavaria	Jan. 23	New-York	Southampton.
Saxonia	Feb. 6	New-York	Southampton.

FROM EUROPE.

Hammonia	Dec. 1	Southampton	New-York.
Kangaroo	Dec. 12	Liverpool	New-York.
Olympus	Dec. 15	Liverpool	New-York.
Germania	Dec. 15	Southampton	New-York.
C'y of Manchester	Dec. 16	Liverpool	New-York.
North American	Dec. 17	Liverpool	Portland.
Adriatic	Dec. 18	Liverpool	New-York.
China	Dec. 19	Liverpool	New-York.
City of Baltimore	Dec. 23	Liverpool	New-York
Africa	Dec. 26	Liverpool	Boston.
Bavaria	Dec. 29	Southampton	New-York.
Anglia	Jan. 1	Liverpool	Boston.
Scotia	Jan. 2	Liverpool	New-York.
Canada	Jan. 9	Liverpool	Boston.
Columbia	Jan. 10	Liverpool	New-York.
Australasian	Jan. 16	Liverpool	New-York.
Asia	Jan. 23	Liverpool	Boston.
China	Jan. 30	Liverpool	New-York.

For New-Orleans, Havana, &c.

Morning Star	Dec. 26	New-York	*New-Orleans
Creole	Dec. 30	New-York	New-Orleans.
Corsica	Jan. 4	New-York	Nassau.
Corsica	Feb. 1	New-York	Nassau.

*Via Havana.

Departure of Domestic Mails.

North Mails close at..........5 A. M. and 3:30 P. M.
South Mails close at..........5 A. M. 4:30 and 10 P. M.
Western Mails (via Erie Railroad)..5 A. M. and 3:30 P. M.
Eastern Mails at..........5 A. M., 1:30 and 6:30 P. M.

Mails for California, Oregon, Washington and the Sandwich Islands close daily at the New-York Post-office at 5½ A. M. and 3½ P. M.

On Sunday all Mails close at 1:30 P. M.

COPARTNERSHIP NOTICES

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF COPARTNERSHIP.—The copartnership heretofore existing by and between the undersigned, under the firm name of BELL, COURTNEY & MILLS, is dissolved, and ROBERT COURTNEY and SAMUEL A. MILLS are alone authorized to close up and settle the affairs of said copartnership.

WILLIAM J. BELL,
ROBERT COURTNEY,
SAMUEL A. MILLS.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1863.

The undersigned have this day formed a copartnership, under the firm name of COURTNEY & MILLS, and will continue the Banking and Stock Brokerage business at the old office, No. 17 Wall-st.

ROBERT COURTNEY,
S. AUGUSTUS MILLS.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1863.

NOTICE.—WILLIAM J. BELL, WILL CONTINUE the stock and bond commission business, on his own account, at No. 34½ Pine-st., where he will be pleased to see his old customers and as many new ones as may be pleased to favor him with their patronage.

WILLIAM J. BELL.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1863.

BUSINESS CHANCES.

A RARE CHANCE—A LIGHT AND PROFITable manufacturing business; protected by letters-patent of the United States; for sale on easy terms. For further particulars address Box No. 163 P. O., Elizabeth, N. J.

DRY GOODS.

MOURNING GOODS.

LUPIN'S BOMBAZINES, ENGLISH BOMBAZINES,
HENRIETTA CLOTHS, EMPRESS CLOTHS,
IMPERIAL REPS, CRAPE EUGENIES,
BLACK SILKS, LUPIN'S DE LAINES,
HALF MOURNING GOODS,
BONNETS, CLOAKS AND SHAWLS, CRAPE VEILS,
EMBROIDERIES, GLOVES, &c.

JACKSON'S MOURNING STORE,
No. 551 Broadway, between Spring and Prince sts.

EMPRESS CLOTHS, FRENCH POPLINS, MERINOES, REPS, IRISH POPLINS, ALPACAS, DE LAINES, &c., &c.,

RETAIL AT REDUCED PRICES.

LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY.
Nos. 255 to 261 GRAND-STREET.
Nos. 47 to 49 CATHARINE-STREET.

DRESS GOODS FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

A large assortment of Desirable Low-Priced DRESS GOODS for HOLIDAY GIFTS.

LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY.
Nos. 255 to 261 GRAND-STREET.
Nos. 47 and 49 CATHARINE-ST.

GARNET, RUBY AND CLARET SILKS.

A fine assortment of all the new shades Plain Silks.

AT RETAIL.

LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY,
Nos. 255 to 261 GRAND-STREET,
Nos. 47 and 49 CATHARINE-ST.

LACE CURTAINS, CORNICES, BANDS, LINENS, BLANKETS, COUNTERPANES, and HOUSE-FURNISHING GOODS in every variety.

LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY.
Nos. 255 to 261 GRAND-STREET.
Nos. 47 and 49 CATHARINE-ST.

RICH LACES FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

A choice assortment of Shawls, Points, Sets, Collars, Sashes, Barbes, Coiffures, Vails, Flounces, Handkerchiefs, &c.

ALSO, LOW-PRICED EMBROIDERIES, for Holiday Presents, in great variety.

LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY.
Nos. 255 to 261 GRAND-ST.,
Nos. 47 and 49 CATHARINE-ST.

RICH SILKS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

MOIRE ANTIQUES, Rich Fancy, Plaid and Plain LYONS DRESS SILKS, including a fine assortment of extra rich Silk suitable for Carriage, Dinner and Evening wear

AT RETAIL.

Also, a large assortment of Fashionable LOW PRICED SILKS.

LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY,
Nos. 255 to 261 GRAND-STREET,
Nos. 47 and 49 CATHARINE-STREET.

CLOAKS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

On and after MONDAY, Dec. 21, the balance of our stock of WINTER CLOAKS—including all the latest and most fashionable styles—will be sold at retail at a GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES.

LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY,
Nos 255 to 261 GRAND-ST.,
Nos. 47 and 49 CATHARINE-ST.

HOSIERY, UNDER-GARMENTS, GLOVES, TIES, SCARFS, MUFFLERS, &c., &c., &c., a fine assortment at Retail.

FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY,
Nos. 255 to 261 GRAND-ST.,
Nos. 47 and 49 CATHARINE-ST.

GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING GOODS, FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

A large importation—per steamer *City of Baltimore*—of

RICH SILK SCARFS,
NECK-TIES, AND
CASHMERE MUFFLERS,

together with a complete assortment of Hosiery, Undergarments, Shirts, Collars, Suspenders, Gloves, &c., &c.,

AT VERY LOW PRICES!!!

RICHARD GREEN,
NO. 375 CANAL-ST., COR. LAURENS.

KID GLOVES—
A NEW BRAND—
THE EMPRESS KID GLOVES, FOR LADIES.

White, Black, and in Colors, Embroidered Backs, Fine, Soft, Elastic—equal to any in the market.

$1.00 A PAIR.

RICHARD GREEN,
No. 375 Canal-st., cor. Laurens.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
STRANG & ADRIANCE,
NO. 355 BROADWAY,
BETWEEN LEONARD AND FRANKLIN STS.,
NOW OPEN
AT RETAIL,

3,000 DRESSES FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS at a GREAT REDUCTION FROM FORMER PRICES,

CONSISTING OF

PRINTED DE LAINES,
FRENCH AND AMERICAN PRINTS,
POPLINS, PLAIN and BROCHE VELOURS,
ALPACAS, VALENCIAS, EMPRESS CLOTHS,
FRENCH MERINOS,
AND A GREAT VARIETY OF
NEW DRESS FABRICS.

These goods will be put up in DRESS PATTERNS and the price marked in plain figures on each dress, and placed on separate counters for convenience of customers.

ALSO,

CLOAKS, SHAWLS, SILKS, EMBROIDERIES, and Hosiery, together with a great variety of other rich goods, at low prices.

AT MME. HUERSTEL'S,
No. 59 BLEECKER-ST.,
has just received from Paris a large assortment of
SPLENDID BALL DRESSES,
CLOAKS AND CORSETS
of the finest description.

HOSIERY, GLOVES AND UNDER GARMENTS.

All the best makes in ladies' and misses' English and German hosiery; ladies' and misses' drawers and vests; all the best makes in kid gloves. Alexandre's, Jouvin's and others celebrated; also, a great variety of Fall and Winter gloves, Ladies' and Misses' gaiters, sontags, capes, hoods, &c., &c.; French kids 75 cents, $1 and $1 25; children's kids 50 cents. N. B. Two hundred dozen undressed kids, in all the fashionable shades at ELGER'S, Nos. 880 and 882 Broadway, near 19th-st.

CLOAKS! CLOAKS!! CLOAKS!!!
AT DAVIDSON'S "BOWERY CLOAK STORE,"
FOR
LADIES, MISSES, AND CHILDREN.
HEAVY UNION BEAVER CLOAKS, only $6 50.
HEAVY UNION DOESKIN CLOAKS, only $8 50.
HEAVY ENGLISH BEAVER CLOAKS, only $10.
HEAVY FRENCH DOESKIN CLOAKS, only $12 50.
ALSO,
WIDE BLACK SILK VELVET, only $5 and $7.
WIDE "LYONS VELVET," ALL SILK, only $12 50.
"LADIES POLITELY WAITED UPON."
C. A. DAVIDSON,
No. 264 Bowery, between Prince and Houston sts.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS—THE GREATEST VAriety of useful and fancy articles, steel and jet ornaments, fancy combs, portemonnaies, needle-books, hair nets, ties, sontags, scarfs, hoods, children's socks, gloves, mitts, caps, &c. Gloves for ladies and gents, 25 new styles. New styles embroidered slippers, a splendid variety; fine linen handkerchiefs, $1 50 a dozen, worth $2 50; $2 a dozen, worth $3. New style hoop skirts, 85 cents; zephyr only 15 cents, usual price 25 to 38 cents; undressed kid and Paris kid, $1, at ELGER'S cheap store, Nos. 880 and 882 Broadway, near 19th-st.

DRY GOODS.

LADIES' AND MISSES'
NORWEGIAN
SKATING HABITS.
AN ELEGANT ASSORTMENT OF
PARIS MADE CLOAKS,
IN VELVET, SILK AND CLOTH.
RUSSIAN CLOTH OPERA CLOAKS
IN GREAT VARIETY.
ALSO,
LADIES' AND MISSES'
WALKING BASQUES.

For style and finish they are unsurpassed.

CHARLOTTE G. SMITH, No. 1,142 Broadway.

FOUNTAIN'S INDIA STORE.

CURIOSO.—CARVED IVORY AND TORTOISE-SHELL CURIOSITIES, (modern and ancient,) also other Japanese articles just opened to-day.

American Indian, Chinese and French Fans.

India, Chinese, Japanese, Manila, American Indian, and other goods, in great varieties, many of which are very appropriate presents (at all times) for this and foreign countries, particularly

FOR THE HOLIDAYS,

as many of them are unique, useful, fashionable, desirable, and sold at reasonable prices, wholesale and retail, at

FOUNTAIN & CO'S.,
No. 858 Broadway, between 13th and 14th sts.

A Stock of Japanese WRITING DESKS AND BOXES positively selling cheap.

New and handsome French fans, wholesale, at very low prices.

CORSETS AND SKIRTS.

Mrs. Elger has the largest and cheapest assortment in the City, and is receiving weekly from Paris fresh goods manufactured expressly for her up Town Trade.

N. B.—Skirts made to order. Misses waists, pads, steels, lacings, rufflings, edgings and trimmings for undergarments. Ladies, Misses and Children's vests, drawers and pantelets. Skirts of the newest shapes and best quality only 85 cents. The cheapest lot of plain and hemstitched handkerchiefs in the City.

FINANCIAL.

UNITED STATES MARSHAL'S SALE.

In the Circuit Court of the United States, District of Indiana, November Term, 1863.

Robert L. Cutting *vs.* the President and Directors of the Peru and Indianapolis Railroad Company, et al.

NOTICE is hereby given, that on the 15th day January, A. D. 1864, between the hours of ten o'clock in the forenoon and four o'clock in the afternoon of said day, at the Court-house, in the city of Indianapolis, County of Marion, and State of Indiana, the undersigned, the Marshal of the United States of the District aforesaid, by virtue of a certified copy of the decree rendered and made by the Court in the above entitled cause, issued by the Clerk of said Court, will sell at auction and public outcry, the following described property and rights of the said Peru and Indianapolis Railroad Company, to wit:

The Peru and Indianapolis Railroad, running and extending from Peru, in the County of Miami, and State of Indiana, through the Counties of Miami, Howard, Tipton, Hamilton and Marion, to the City of Indianapolis, in said County of Marion; and all and singular the land and real estate of which the said Railroad Company was, on the 5th day of March, 1856, or now is seized or possessed, together with all the land under and on each side of the track, to the whole width and extent that the said Company was or is seized or possessed of the same, together with the superstructure, tracks and rails thereon and the bridges, viaducts, fences, depot grounds, and buildings thereon, engines, cars, tools, materials, machinery, and all the personal property, rights thereto or interest therein of the said Company, and also all that certain piece of land extending from the termination of the said Railroad at Peru to the Lake Erie, Wabash and St. Louis Railroad, acquired or to be acquired by said Company, and the road built or to be built thereon, with the superstructure and rails placed or to be placed thereon, and all the depot grounds acquired or to be acquired, and all other property, real or personal, acquired or to be acquired by said Company; and also all the tolls, rents, and income to be had or levied from the said Railroad extending from Peru to Indianapolis and the extension thereof to the Lake Erie, Wabash and St. Louis Railroad, now called the Toledo and Wabash Railway Company, and all franchises, rights, and privileges of the said Peru and Indianapolis Railroad Company of, in, to, or concerning the same and any and every part thereof.

The rents and profits of said property will first be offered for sale, and, upon failing to realize a sufficient sum to satisfy the demand due upon said decree, I will, at the same time and place, in like manner offer for sale the fee simple of the property, effects, rights and franchises above described, ordered to be sold as the property of the said Peru and Indianapolis Railroad Company in the above-entitled suit.

The sale will be made without relief from the valuation and appraisement laws of the State of Indiana; and said property, &c., will be sold as an entirety, and subject to the prior and paramount lien of the deed of trust or mortgage executed by said Company on the 1st day of July, 1852, to James Winslow, as Trustee, to secure the payment of the bonds of the Company, amounting to $600,000, and interest thereon, which interest, unpaid on the 1st day of July, 1863, amounted to $69,734 17, and also subject to the rights and claims of the judgment recovered by the Madison and Indianapolis Railroad Company against said Peru and Indianapolis Railroad Company, in the Fall of 1855, in the Circuit Court of Marion County, Indiana, for $37,527, and which judgment has been assigned to Francis B. Cutting. The purchase money must be paid at the time the property is struck down, and upon default the property may again be offered and sold, the purchaser so failing to pay being responsible for any loss upon the reoffering.

DAVID G. ROSE, U. S. Marshal.

Wm. Henderson, Hendricks & Hord, Attorneys for complainant.

Nov. 13, 1863.

UNITED STATES MARSHAL'S SALE.

DISTRICT OF INDIANA.

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree and venditioni exponas to me issued, and directed by the Clerk of the United States District Court for the District of Indiana, I will, on the 4th day of January, 1864, at the office of the Treasurer of State, in the City of Indianapolis, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 6 o'clock P. M. of said day, expose to sale, at public outcry, to the highest bidders, for cash, 109,000 of Indiana five per cent. State Stocks, the numbers of the certificates of which, and the respective amounts thereof, are as follows:

No. of Cer.	Amount.	No. of Cer.	Amount.	No. of Cer.	Amount.
576	$5,000	1050	$2,000	1263	$9,000
1288	4,000	1352	9,000	1353	1,000
1388	2,000	1493	3,000	1580	6,000
1676	4,000	1782	7,000	1836	6,000
1928	2,000	2139	4,000	107	11,000
294	3,000	320	3,000	663	6,000
816	7,000	897	8,000	1172	5,000
1220	5,000				
Total					$109,000

Each certificate will be sold separately and in the order above given, but in no event will either of said certificates be struck off and sold by me for less than seventy-five per cent. of the par value thereof. Certificates of purchase will be by me executed and delivered to the purchasers, which under and by the terms of the decree, will entitle the purchasers to have the said certificates of stock purchased regularly transferred as by the laws of Indiana provided, and new certificates issued as in case of a regular transfer.

Dec. 4, 1863. D. G. ROSE, U. S. Marshal.

AGENCY FOR THE SALE OF U. S. FIVE-TWENTY BONDS,
Office of
HENRY A. HEISER & SON,
No. 44 Pine-st., near William.
U. S. 5-20 6 PER CENT. BONDS

in all denominations, constantly on hand, and ready for immediate delivery, at PAR and interest. To Brokers and Bankers the usual commission allowed.

Stocks, Bonds, and all forms of Government Securities and Mercantile Paper bought and sold on commission.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF NEW-YORK,
NO. 4 WALL-ST.
DESIGNATED DEPOSITORY AND FISCAL AGENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

Regular agency for the NATIONAL LOANS.

Subscriptions received for U. S. 5-20 BONDS, and COMMISSIONS ALLOWED to Bankers.

Bonds on hand for immediate delivery.

Especial care given to the interests of DEPOSITORS and CORRESPONDENTS.

SAMUEL C. THOMPSON, President.
JAMES CURPHEY, Cashier.

LEAVENWORTH & SANDERSON,
BANKERS AND BROKERS,
NO. 19 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK.

DEALERS IN GOVERNMENT SECURITIES, AMERICAN AND FOREIGN SPECIE AND UNCURRENT MONEY.

Stocks and Bonds bought and sold at the Brokers' Boards on Commission. Collections made on all accessible points in the United States and Canada.

Interest allowed on deposits.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,
NO. 59 WALL-ST.,
ISSUE COMMERCIAL AND TRAVELERS' CREDITS FOR USE IN THE COUNTRY AND ABROAD.

EDWARD KING

offers his services at the Board of Brokers for the purchase or sale of STOCKS, BONDS AND GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

NO. 4 HANOVER-ST.

OFFICE OF MARIPOSA COMPANY, No. 34 WALL-STREET, NEW-YORK.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE following Bonds of the Mariposa Company, of one thousand dollars each, were this day drawn by lot for redemption, from the whole number of fifteen hundred, viz.: Nos. 184, 251, 284, 312, 408, 485, 588, 589, 591, 658, 909, 962, 963, 990, 997, 1038, 1095, 1142, 1156, 1373, 1388, 1439, 1443, 1457, 1469; and that the same, together with the six months' accrued interest, will be paid in gold, on the 1st day of January next, on presentation at the office of the Company. Bonds must be presented within ten days after the first day of January next, under penalty of forfeiture of the privilege of redemption from the sinking fund under this drawing.

MORRIS KETCHUM, Treasurer.

Dated Dec. 7, 1863.

OFFICE OF THE PACIFIC MUTUAL INSURANCE CO., TRINITY BUILDING, No. 111 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1863.

THE BOOKS OF THIS COMPANY WILL close on the 31st inst., preparatory to its annual statement. Persons holding policies on risks which shall have terminated during the year, are requested to furnish an account of premiums thereon, and a statement of all claims for return of premiums to prevent discrepancy in the accounts.

THOMAL HALE, Secretary.

CHICAGO AND ALTON RAILROAD CO. FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS.—The amount of the coupons due Jan. 1, 1864, on the above-named Bonds, has been placed to the credit of the holders, and will be paid to them on presentation by

G. S. ROBBINS & SON, No. 54 William-st.

$30,000 TO LOAN. NO COMMISSIONS. APply to F. R. WESTBROOK. 23 Nassau-st.

FINANCIAL.

CHICAGO AND GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY, FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS, FOR $2,000,000.

SUBSCRIPTION BOOKS OPENED WITH Messrs. SCHUCHARDT & GEBHARD, Bankers, No. 21 Nassau-st., New-York.

The Chicago and Great Eastern Railway Company now offer for sale one million one hundred thousand dollars of the first mortgage bonds, in sums of one thousand dollars each, maturing in thirty years, bearing interest at the rate of Seven per cent. per annum, payable in the City of New-York, on the first days of April and October, in each year.

These bonds are secured by a first and only Mortgage on the property, income and franchises of the Railway Company, executed to Frederick Schuchardt and Henry Morgan, of the City of New-York, Trustees.

The remaining nine hundred thousand dollars of the Bonds are set apart and remain in the hands of the said Trustees, for the purpose of being exchanged for the indebtedness of the Chicago and Cincinnati Railroad Company, running from La Crosse to Logansport; this effected, the $2,000,000 will form a First and only Mortgage on a line of road 110 miles in length, extending from Chicago to Logansport, where it connects with the Cincinnati and Chicago Air-line Railroad, forming the shortest line by 40 miles, between Chicago and Cincinnati, and by 36 miles the shortest line between Louisville and Chicago.

It will also open, in connection with roads now in operation, entirely new and very direct lines from Chicago to New-York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and all Eastern cities. The distance between Chicago and New-York by this route being shorter than by either of the the existing lines *via* Dunkirk or Buffalo.

The road is now under contract, and the most strenuous efforts are being made to have it open for traffic during the Summer of 1864.

The interest on the Bonds maturing during the progress of the work has been provided for, and will remain on deposit with the Bankers of the Company, Messrs SCHUCHARDT & GEBHARD, No. 21 Nassau-st., to whom the Company refer for further particulars, and where subscription books for this loan have been opened.

W. D. JUDSON, President.

No. 37 WILLIAM-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1863.

DUBUQUE AND SIOUX CITY RAILROAD COMPANY, DUBUQUE, IOWA, Dec. 24, 1863.

DIVIDEND NOTICE.—A SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIdend of Three and a Half per cent. has been declared on the preferred stock of this Company, from the net earnings of the past six months, payable in cash, on and after the 15th of January next, to the holders thereof as they shall stand registered on the books at the close of business on the 31st inst. The Dividend will be payable to Eastern Stockholders, at the banking-house of Messrs. SCHUCHARDT & GEBHARD, No. 21 Nassau-st., New-York, and to the Dubuque Stockholders, only at the Treasurer's office in Dubuque.

The transfer books will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 31, and reopened on Monday, Jan. 18, 1864.

EDWARD STIMSON, President.

OFFICE DAYTON AND MICHIGAN RAILROAD COMPANY, CINCINNATI, Dec. 25, 1863.

NOTICE.—THE HOLDERS OF THE DAYTON and Michigan R. R. Co's Mortgage Bonds are notified that the interest coupons falling due on the first day of January, 1864, and signed P. Smith, Secretary, will be paid at the Bank of America on the 1st prox.; and the Coupons of said Mortgage Bonds maturing on the first day of January, 1864, and signed J. G. Telford, President, will be paid on presentation at the office of Winslow, Lanier & Co., New-York, on the first proximo.

F. H. SHORT, Secretary.

NEW-HAVEN AND NEW-YORK RAILROAD stock, Bellefontaine and Indiana, Indianapolis, Cleveland and Pittsburgh, Madison and Indianapolis Railroad stocks; Mansfield, Sandusky and Newark Sinking Fund bonds; Great Western, of Illinois, bonds, bought and sold. GEO. K. SISTARE, No. 27 William-st., Room No. 6.

P. S.—Jersey City and Hoboken Gas Company, Metropolitan Gas Company stocks for sale.

OFFICE OF THE MARIPOSA COMPANY, No. 34 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1863.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE Interest Coupons of the Bonds of the Mariposa Company, falling due on the first day of January next, will be paid on that day, in gold, on presentation at the office of the Company. JAMES HOY, President.

GEO. W. FOWLER, Secretary.

COUPONS OF FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS of the Joliet and Chicago Railroad Company, due Jan. 1, 1864, and coupons of First Mortgage Preferred Bonds of the Dubuque Southwestern Railroad Company, due Jan. 1, 1864, will be paid at our office, No. 59 Exchange-place, on and after Jan. 2, 1864, less the Government tax of 3 per cent. M. K. JESUP & CO.

OFFICE OF THE CONTINENTAL INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 102 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 26, 1863.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Company will be held on MONDAY, the 11th January next, at this office. The poll will open at 12 o'clock M., and continue open one hour.

H. H. LAMPORT, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE METROPOLITAN GAS LIGHT CO., Broadway, cor. 42d-st., NEW-YORK, Dec. 26, 1863.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR TWELVE Directors of this Company will be held at their office on MONDAY, the 11th of January next. The poll will be opened at 12 M., and closed at 2 P. M.

The transfer book will be closed on the evening of the 28th inst., and be opened on the morning of the 12th of January. W. TITUS, Sec'y.

AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF Directors of the New Jersey Zinc Company, held at Jersey City, N. J., the 16th inst., a dividend of four and two-thirds per cent., on preferred, and two per cent on common stock, was declared and payable at the transfer office of Company, No. 108 Liberty-st., New-York, on and after Jan. 2, 1864. The transfer books will be closed from 17th instant to 2d proximo. A. H. FARLIN, Treasurer and Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE ATLANTIC MUTUAL INS. CO., No. 51 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 14, 1863.

THE BOOKS OF THIS COMPANY WILL close on the 31st inst., preparatory to its annual statement. Persons holding policies on risks which shall have terminated during the year prior to 1st January next, are requested to furnish an account of the premiums thereon, and a statement of all claims for return of premiums, to prevent discrepancies in the accounts.

J. H. CHAPMAN, Acting Secretary.

THE QUICKSILVER MINING COMPANY, No. 21 NASSAU-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 7, 1863.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKholders of this Company will be held at the Continental Hotel, in the City of Philadelphia, at 11 A. M. on MONDAY, Jan. 4, 1864.

The annual election of Directors will be held on the same day, between the hours of 12 M. and 2 P. M.

The Transfer Books will be closed on SATURDAY, Dec. 19, 1863, and reopened on TUESDAY, Jan. 5, 1864.

By order, J. B. RANDOL, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE TOLEDO AND WABASH RAILWAY CO., No. 132 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Nov. 1, 1863.

THE TOLEDO AND WABASH RAILWAY COMPANY will extend until 1890 the payment of all their First Mortgage Bonds which shall be presented at this office for that purpose before the 1st day of January next.

By order of the Board of Directors.

A. BOODY, President.

SACRAMENTO VALLEY RAILROAD COMPANY.—The coupons due 1st January, 1864, of the First Mortgage Bonds of this Company, will be paid on and after that date *in Gold Coin*, less Government tax, at the office of SCHUCHARDT & GEBHARD.

PEORIA AND OQUAWKA RAILROAD COMPANY.—The undersigned, having obtained a decree to sell the above road, are now prepared to receive the First and Second Mortgage Bonds, and issue for them Trustees' Certificates, under the agreement to reorganize the Company, made at a general meeting of bondholders and creditors, held Dec. 23, 1862.

The Bonds can be exchanged for Certificates at No. 24 Exchange-place, office of WESTON, DE BILLIER & CO.

CHARLES L. FROST,
EDWARD WESTON, Trustees.
HENRY G. MARQUAND,

NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1863.

CLEVELAND, COLUMBUS AND CINCINNATI RAILROAD COMPANY, CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 23, 1863.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKholders of this Company for the election of Directors, and for the transaction of other business, will be held at the office of the Company in Cleveland, Ohio, on WEDNESDAY, Jan. 13, 1864. The transfer books will be closed from the evening of Jan. 2 until Jan. 14.

GEO. H. RUSSELL, Secretary.

CENTRAL PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY.—The coupons due Jan. 1, 1864, on the Mortgage Bonds of this Company, will be paid on and after the 1st proximo, in gold coin, less Government tax, at the office of EUGENE KELLY & CO., No. 36 Wall-st.

OFFICE MARIETTA AND CINCINNATI RAILROAD CO., (as reorganized,) CHILLICOTHE, O., Dec. 25, 1863.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE Stock Books of this Company, at the office at Chillicothe and at the New-York transfer office, will be closed from the 1st to the 15th January next.

W. E. WATSON, Secretary.

DUBUQUE AND SIOUX CITY RAILROAD COMPANY.—The Coupons due Jan. 1, 1864, of the First Mortgage Bonds of the above Company, will be paid on and after that date (less Government tax) at the office of SCHUCHARDT & GEBHARD.

"ATLANTIC AND GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY."—Coupons on the Bonds of this Company will be paid on presentation by McANDREW & WANN, No. 12 Pine-st.

OWNERS OF WESTERN LANDS CAN have their taxes paid on application to C. & G. WOODMAN, No. 33 Pine-st. LAND WARRANTS purchased and for sale.

DIVIDENDS.

BANK OF AMERICA.

DIVIDEND—The President and Directors of the Bank of America have this day declared a dividend of Five (5) per cent. for the current six months, free from Government tax, payable to the Stockholders on and after SATURDAY, Jan. 2, 1864.

The Transfer Book will remain closed from this date until the morning of Tuesday, Jan. 5, 1864.

WM. L. JENKINS, Cashier.

NEW-YORK, December, 1863.

MANUFACTURERS' AND MERCHANTS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 15, 1863.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have this day declared a Dividend of Four (4) per Cent., payable on and after Jan. 2, free of Government tax.

Transfer Books will be closed from the 26th December to Jan. 2. A. MASTERTON, Cashier.

MARKET BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1863.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MARKET BANK have this day declared a dividend of four per cent., free of Government tax, payable on and after Jan. 2 next. The transfer books will be closed till that date. A. GILBERT, Cashier.

BANK OF COMMERCE IN NEW-YORK.—DIVIDEND.—A Semi-annual Dividend of FOUR PER CENT., free from Government tax, has been declared on the Capital Stock of this Bank, payable on and after Jan. 4. H. F. VAIL, Cashier.

DIVIDENDS.

HOUSATONIC RAILROAD CO., TREASURER'S OFFICE, BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Dec. 17, 1863.

DIVIDEND NO. 12.—THE BOARD OF DIRECtors of this Road have this day declared a Dividend of Four Dollars per share, (free from Government tax,) on the preferred stock, payable on the 26th inst., to such stockholders as shall appear, by the transfer books of the Company, to have been the owners of said stock on the 19th day of December, 1863.

The dividend on stock on the New-York books will be paid by Messrs. KETCHUM, SON & CO., No. 40 Exchange-place; on Boston books, by Messrs. J. E. THAYER & BRO. The transfer books will be closed from the 19th to the 26th inst., both days inclusive.

CHARLES K. AVERILL, Treasurer.

OFFICE OF THE PANAMA RAILROAD COMPANY, TONTINE BUILDINGS, No. 88 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1863.

TWENTY-SEVENTH DIVIDEND.—THE Board of Directors have this day declared a Dividend of Four (4) Per Cent. out of the earnings of the road for the three months ending 31st inst., and One (1) Per Cent. out of the earnings of steamers, sailing vessels, &c., payable to the stockholders or their legal representatives on and after the 5th day of January next.

The Transfer Books will be closed from the evening of the 26th day of December until the morning of the 7th day of January next. HENRY SMITH, Treasurer.

DIVIDEND.—MARINERS' SAVINGS BANK, NO. 1 THIRD-AV.—The Trustees of this institution have directed that interest at the rate of SIX (6) PER CENT. per annum, on all sums of $500 and under, and of (5) FIVE PER CENT. on deposits over $500, free from Government tax, be allowed to all depositors entitled thereto, payable on and after WEDNESDAY, Jan. 20.

All interest not withdrawn will draw interest as principal.

Bank open daily from 9 to 2 P. M., and on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings, from 5 to 8 P. M. No. 1 3d-av.

THOMAS B. STILLMAN, President.
ISAAC T. SMITH, Secretary.

BUTCHERS' AND DROVERS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1863.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have declared a dividend of Five per Cent. (free of Government tax) from the earnings of the current six months, payable on the 2d day of January next. The Transfer Books will remain closed until the day of payment. R. P. PERRIN, Cashier.

MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE BANK IN THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1863.

DIVIDEND.—A SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND OF Three and One-half Per Cent. on the Capital of this Bank, free of Government tax, has been declared payable on and after 2d January next. The transfer books will be closed from this date until 2d proximo.

By order. E. J. OAKLEY, Cashier.

BROADWAY BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1863.

TWENTY-EIGHTH DIVIDEND.—THE Board of Directors have declared a Semi-Annual Dividend of Six Per Cent., and an extra Dividend of Four Per Cent. on the Capital Stock of this Bank and the Government tax, payable on the 2d day of January ensuing. J. L. EVERITT, Cashier.

EAST RIVER BANK—DIVIDEND.—THE Board of Directors have declared a Dividend from the profits of the last six months of 3½ per cent. payable on and after January 2, 1864, free of Government tax.

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 22d inst. to January 2, 1864, inclusive.

W. S. GARMAN, Cashier.

TRADESMEN'S BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1863.

DIVIDEND.—A SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND OF Five (5) per cent. on the capital stock, has this day been declared (free from Government tax) payable on MONDAY, Jan. 4. ANTHONY HALSEY, Cashier.

GROCERS BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1863.

DIVIDEND.—A DIVIDEND OF FIVE PER CENT. will be paid to the stockholders of this Bank, free from Government tax, on and after Jan. 2, 1864.

SAMUEL B. WHITE, Cashier.

MECHANICS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1863.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have this day declared a Dividend of Four Per Cent., free of Government tax, payable to the stockholders on and after 2d January next. The transfer books will be closed from this date until Jan. 2.

WM. H. COX, Cashier.

BANK OF NEW-YORK, Dec. 18, 1863.

159TH DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECtors of the Bank of New-York have this day declared a dividend of Five (5) per Cent., free of Government tax, payable on and after 2d January next. The Transfer Books will be closed from this date until 2 January. W. B. MEEKER, Cashier.

BANK OF THE COMMONWEALTH, NEW-YORK, Dec. 18, 1863.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF this Bank have declared a dividend of four per cent. payable to the stockholders on MONDAY, the 4th of January next.

The transfer books will be closed till that date.

GEORGE ELLIS, Cashier.

BANK OF NORTH AMERICA, NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1863.

DIVIDEND NO. 25.—A SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIdend of four (4) per cent., (free of Government tax,) has been declared payable on and after the 2d day of January next. The transfer books will be closed from this day to 2d proximo. By order.

J. A. BEARDSLEY, Acting Cashier.

HANOVER BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1863.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Four per Cent. on the capital stock, free of Government tax, payable on the 2d day of January next. The transfer books will be closed from the 22d inst. to the day of payment. By order. THOS. L. TAYLOR, Cashier.

METROPOLITAN BANK, NO. 108 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1863.—DIVIDEND.—The Directors of the Metropolitan Bank have this day declared a semi-annual dividend of Four (4) per Cent., payable, free of United States tax, on or after MONDAY, Jan. 4, next.

The Transfer Books will be closed on 23d inst. and opened on Jan. 7, 1864. By order

GEO I. SENEY, Cashier.

SAVINGS BANKS.

UNION DIME SAVINGS BANK,
NO. 429 CANAL-ST., CORNER OF VARICK.

OPEN DAILY from 10 A. M. to 2, and from 5 to 7 P. M. SIX PER CENT. interest allowed on sums of $500 and under, and FIVE PER CENT. on larger sums.

EDER V. HAUGHWOUT, President.

JOHN McLEAN,
WM. S. WHITLOCK, Vice-Presidents.

GARDNER S. CHAPIN, Secretary.

SIX PER CENT. INTEREST.

CITIZENS' SAVINGS BANK, corner of Bowery and Canal-st. Open every day from 9 to 3, and on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY EVENINGS from 5 to 7. Bank books in English, German and French. Interest commences, Jan. 1, 1864.

GEORGE FOLSOM, President.
SEYMOUR A. BUNCE, Secretary.

UNITED STATES MILITARY RAILROAD OFFICE, No. 250 G-st., Washington, D. C., Dec. 19, 1863.

LOCOMOTIVE ENGINES AND RAILROAD IRON FOR SALE.

I will sell at public auction, at the Orange and Alexandria Railroad Depot, in Alexandria, Va., on WEDNESDAY, the 13th day of January next:

Ten second-hand Locomotive Engines, 4 feet 8½ inches gauge.
About 1,000 tons of old Rails, T and U pattern.
About 300 tons of old Car Wheels.
About 200 tons of old Car Axles.
About 200 tons of old Wrought Scrap-Iron.
About 200 tons of old Cast Iron.
A lot of Steel Springs, Sheet Iron, &c.
Sale to commence at 10 A. M.
Terms cash, in Government funds.

H. L. ROBINSON, Captain and A. Q. M.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION,
NO. 96 WARREN-ST.

Interest allowed at the rate of 6 per cent. on all sums entitled thereto. Open daily from 10 to 2 P. M., and on Monday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons from 4 to 7 P. M. N. B.—Money to loan on bond and mortgage.

WALTER W. CONCKLIN, President.
VANDERBILT L. BUXTON, Secretary.

MECHANICS' AND TRADERS' SAVINGS INSTITUTION,
NO. 283 BOWERY.

Open daily, from 10 A. M. to 7 P. M. Six per cent. interest allowed on sums of $1,000 and under; five per cent. on larger sums. Deposits made on or before Jan. 1, will draw interest from that date. CHAS. PECK, President.

HENRY C. FISHER, Secretary.

EAST RIVER SAVINGS BANK,
No. 3 Chambers-st.
NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1863.

DIVIDEND—The usual Semi-annual Dividend, at the rate of six per cent. per annum, on all sums from $1 to $500, and five per cent. on sums over $500, will be payable on and after the 19th of January, 1864.

Bank open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M., and on Thursday evening from 5 to 7 o'clock.

WM H. SLOCUM, President.
CHAS. A. WHITNEY, Secretary.

ATLANTIC SAVINGS BANK,
No. 177 Chatham-square, New-York.
SIX PER CENT. INTEREST ALLOWED.

Interest on money deposited on or before Jan. 1, 1864, will commence on that date.

Bank open daily from 10 to 3 and 5 to 7 P M.

M. D. VAN PELT, President.
CHARLES D. BAILEY, Treasurer.
J. P. COOPER, Secretary.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

MALES.

WANTED—BY AN EXPERIENCED DOUBLE-entry book-keeper, quick and correct, of large business capacity, some position in a good house; has been the financial manager of a large house; is fully competent; expectations moderate; salary at the discretion of employer. For reference, &c., address O. P., Box No. 175 *Times* Office.

WANTED.—A SITUATION BY A BOY, 17 YEARS of age, in a store or office where he can make himself useful; is intelligent, honest, and industrious, and can produce excellent references. Address H. M., Box No. 186, *Times* Office.

HELP WANTED

WANTED.—A YOUNG LADY, 15 TO 17 YEARS of age, of intelligence and kind disposition, and strictly American birth, can obtain a home in a small and highly respectable family, where she will be kindly treated and provided for; she must be entirely trustworthy, and give good references. Address Box No. 102 *Times* Office.

IRON SAFE-MAKERS WANTED—AT HERRINGS' Safe Manufactory, corner 14th-st. and 9th-av., Hudson and 13th-st. Good workers in iron can find steady employment.

BOY WANTED—IN A MERCHANT'S OFFICE a boy of respectable parentage, 14 to 16 years of age. Address "MERCHANT," Box No. 2,525 Post-office.

PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS FOR FORAGE.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON DEPOT, Dec. 8, 1863.

SEALED PROPOSALS are invited by the undersigned for supplying the United States Quartermaster's Department, at Washington, D. C., Baltimore, Md., Alexandria and Fort Monroe, Va., or either of these places, with Hay, Corn, Oats and Straw.

Bids will be received for the delivery of 5,000 bushels of corn or oats, and 50 tons of hay or straw, and upward.

Bidders must state at which of the above-named points they propose to make deliveries, and the rates at which they will make deliveries thereat, the quantity of each article proposed to be delivered, the time when said deliveries shall be commenced, and when to be completed.

The price must be written out in words on the bids.

Corn to be put up in good stout sacks, of about two bushels each. Oats in like sacks, of about three bushels each. The sacks to be furnished without extra charge to the Government. The hay and straw to be securely baled.

The particular kind or description of oats, corn, hay or straw, proposed to be delivered must be stated in the proposals.

All the articles offered under the bids herein invited, will be subject to a rigid inspection by the Government Inspector before being accepted.

Contracts will be awarded from time to time to the lowest responsible bidder, as the interest of the Government may require, and payment will be made when the whole amount contracted for shall have been delivered and accepted.

The bidder will be required to accompany his proposal with a guarantee, signed by two responsible persons, that in case his bid is accepted, he or they will, within ten days thereafter, execute the contract for the same, with good and sufficient sureties, in a sum equal to the amount of the contract, to deliver the forage proposed in conformity with the terms of this advertisement; and in case the said bidder should fail to enter into the contract, they to make good the difference between the offer of said bidder and the next lowest responsible bidder, or the person to whom the contract may be awarded.

The responsibility of the guarantors must be shown by the official certificate of a United States District-Attorney, Collector of Customs, or any other officer under the United States Government, or responsible person known at this office.

All bidders will be duly notified of the acceptance or rejection of their proposals.

The full name and Post-office address of each bidder must be legibly written in the proposal.

Proposals must be addressed to Brigadier-General D. H. Rucker, Chief Depot Quartermaster, Washington, D. C., and should be plainly marked "Proposals for Forage."

Bonds, in a sum equal to the amount of the contract, signed by the contractor and both of his guarantors, will be required of the successful bidder or bidders upon signing the contract.

Blank forms of bids, guarantees, and bonds, may be obtained upon application at this office.

FORM OF PROPOSAL.

(Town, County, and State,) ————

(Date) ————

I, the subscriber, do hereby propose to furnish and deliver to the United States, at the Quartermaster's Department, at ————, agreeably to the terms of your advertisement, inviting proposals for forage, dated Washington, Depot, Dec. 8, 1863, the following articles, viz.:

———— bushels of Corn, in sacks, at —— per bushel of 56 pounds.

———— bushels of Oats, in sacks, at —— per bushel of 32 pounds.

———— tons of baled Hay, at —— per ton of 2,000 pounds.

———— tons of baled Straw, at —— per ton of 2,000 pounds.

Delivery to commence on or before the ———— day of ————, 186 , and to be completed on or before the ———— day of ————, 186 , and pledge myself to enter into a written contract with the United States, with good and approved securities, within the space of ten days after being notified that my bid has been accepted.

Your obedient servant,

Brigadier-General D. H. RUCKER,
Chief Depot Quartermaster,
Washington, D. C.

GUARANTEE.

We, the undersigned, residents of ————, in the County of ————, and State of ————, hereby, jointly and severally, covenant with the United States, and guarantee in case the foregoing bid of ———— be accepted, that he or they will, within ten days after the acceptance of said bid, execute the contract for the same with good and sufficient sureties, in a sum equal to the amount of the contract, to furnish the forage proposed in conformity to the terms of advertisement dated Dec. 8, 1863, under which the bid was made, and, in case the said ———— shall fail to enter into a contract as aforesaid, we guarantee to make good the difference between the offer by the said ———— and the next lowest responsible bidder, or the person to whom the contract may be awarded.

Witness, { Given under our hands and seals this —— day of ——, 186 .

[Seal.]
[Seal.]

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the above-named guarantors are good and sufficient as sureties for the amount for which they offer to be security.

To be certified by the United States District-Attorney, Collector of Customs, or any other officer under the United States Government, or responsible person known to this office.

All proposals received under this advertisement will be opened and examined at this office on Wednesday and Saturday of each week, at 12 M. Bidders are respectfully invited to be present, at the opening of bids if they desire.

D. H. RUCKER,
Brigadier-General and Quartermaster.

PROPOSALS FOR CAVALRY HORSES.

CAVALRY BUREAU,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 25, 1863.

Proposals are solicited, and will be received at this office, for the furnishing of cavalry horses, to be delivered at Washington, D. C., St. Louis, Mo., and Chicago, Ill.

The horses to comply with the following specifications, viz.: to be from fifteen (15) to sixteen (16) hands high, from five (5) to nine (9) years old, well broken to the saddle, compactly built, in good flesh, and free from all defects.

The ability of the bidder to fulfill his agreement, must be guaranteed by two responsible persons, whose signatures must be appended to the guarantee. No proposals will be entertained unless the oath of allegiance of the person or persons bidding shall be on file in this office.

The responsibility of the guarantors must be shown by the official certificate of the Clerk of the nearest District Court, or of the United States District-Attorney.

Proposals must be addressed to Lieut.-Col. C. G. SAWTELLE, Chief Quartermaster, Cavalry Bureau, and be indorsed on the envelope "Proposals for Cavalry Horses."

Cavalry horses agreeing with the above specifications will be purchased in open market at fair prices, at the following places, viz.: New-York City, Albany, Buffalo and Rochester, N. Y.; Pittsburgh, Penn.; Columbus, Ohio; Boston, Mass.; Augusta, Me., and Madison, Wis.

C. G. SAWTELLE,
Lieut.-Col. and Chief Quartermaster, Cavalry Bureau.

No. 6 STATE-ST., Dec. 24.

SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE REceived at this office, until 12 o'clock, 30th inst., for supplying Hart's Island, Long Island Sound, with 3,000 tons of well-screened anthracite coal of the best quality, delivered as follows:

By Jan. 10, 500 tons.
By Jan. 20, 250 tons.
By Feb. 1, 500 tons.
By Feb. 10, 750 tons.
By March 1, 750 tons.
By March 10, 250 tons.

Coal to be of equal quantities of broken, egg and stove size, and to be delivered on the docks free of expense to the Government.

The bidder will be required to accompany his proposal with a guarantee, signed by two responsible parties, that, in case his bid is accepted, he or they will, within two days thereafter, execute the contract for the same with good and sufficient sureties in a sum equal to the amount of the contract to deliver the coal in conformity with the terms of this advertisement, payment for each delivery to be made in such funds as the Government may provide, upon the acknowledgment of the proper receipting officer of the post, less 20 per cent. of the amount, which will be withheld until the completion of the contract.

The privilege is reserved of rejecting any or all bids not deemed advantageous.

Offerings should be indorsed "Proposals for Coal," and addressed to Major STEWART VAN VLIET,
Quartermaster, U. S. A., New-York.

U. S. A. MEDICAL PURVEYOR'S OFFICE,
MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 1, 1863.

MANUFACTURERS, DEALERS AND IMporters are invited to send to this office price-lists of and tenders for any or all of the articles of medical and hospital supplies required for the use of the army. Copies of the Supply-table can be seen at the office of any Medical Purveyor. Further particulars made known on application to HENNELL STEVENS,
Medical Storekeeper, U. S. Army,
Medical Purveyor, Dept. Tenn.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE FOLLOWING ARRANGEMENTS have been decided upon by the Committee on National Affairs of the Common Council for the funeral obsequies of the late Gen. MICHAEL CORCORAN:

The funeral will take place from the City Hall at 1 o'clock P. M., on SUNDAY, the 27th inst.

The procession will form in the following order in front of the City Hall, right resting on the east side of the Park

The 22d Regiment N. Y. S. N. G.,
Under command of Col. Aspinwall.
The 69th Regiment N. Y. S. N. G.,
Under command of Col. Bagley.
The 4th Artillery,
Under command of Col. Teller.
Cavalry Troop of 69th Regiment.

PALL BEARERS.		PALL BEARERS
Gen. Thos. F. Meagher.	HEARSE & HORSE.	Gen. Chas. C. Dodge.
Col. Math. Murphy, 69th reg't N. Y. S. Vol.		Col. John O. Mahony, 1st reg't. Phenix Brigade.
Col. J. R. McIvor, 170th reg't N. Y. S. Vol. Inf.		Col. Hugh C. Hood, 155th reg't N. Y. S. Vol. Inf.
Ex-Col. W. McEvely, 155th reg't N. Y. S. Vol. Inf.		Lt.-Col. T. M. Reed, 69th N. Y. S. N. G.
Hon. William Walsh.		Hon. John Kelley.
Hon. Joseph Shannon.		Hon. Elijah F. Purdy.
Hon. Peter Moneghan.		Hon. Morgan Jones.
Hon. John Healy.		Samuel T. Webster, Esq.

Family and Relatives.
Officers of the Corcoran Legion.
Officers of the First Division N. Y. S. N. Guard.
His Honor the Mayor and the Common Council, preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms.
First Regiment Phœnix Brigade, Ninety-sixth Regiment N. Y. S. N. Guard, under command of Col. John O'Mahoney.
Father Matthew U. B. T. A. B. Society, under command of Edward L. Carey.
Longshore Men's Benevolent Society.
Father Matthew's U. B. T. A. B. Society of South Brooklyn, No. 1.

The route will be as follows: Passing out of the west gate of the Park, up Broadway to Stuyvesant-st., to 10th-st., through 10th-st., to the ferry, thence to Calvary Cemetery.

TERENCE FARLEY,
PETER MITCHELL,
JOHN T. HENRY,
F. I. A. BOOLE,
JOHN D. OTTIWELL,
Committee of Board of Aldermen.
WM. JOYCE,
SAMUEL T. WEBSTER,
JOHN McCONNELL,
ALEX. BRANDON,
JOHN G. HAVILAND,
Committee of Board of Councilmen.
JOHN D. OTTIWELL, Chairman.

RAILROADS.

ATLANTIC AND GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

NEW BROAD GAUGE ROUTE.

Passenger trains leave New-York via the Erie Railway, from foot of Chambers-st., running through to Cleveland, Ohio, without change of cars, connecting with railroads for all principal cities in the West.

This Road is being extended, and will soon be in complete running order to Mansfield, Galion, Urbana, Dayton, Cincinnati and St. Louis, without break of gauge.

H. F. SWEETZER, General Superintendent.
T. H. GOODMAN, General Ticket Agent, Meadville, Pa.

NEW-YORK & FLUSHING RAILROAD.

Leave New-York, at James-slip Ferry and 34th-st. Ferry, at 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7¼.

Leave Flushing at 6, 7, 8, 9, 11 A. M.; 1, 3, 5, 6 and 7¼ P. M.

N. B.—On TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS, a special night train leaves Flushing at 11 P. M., and from 34th-st. Ferry at 12 P. M.

LONG ISLAND RAILROAD—WINTER ARRANGEMENT, commencing Nov. 12, 1863.—Leave James-slip and 34th-st., East River, at 9 A. M., and on FRIDAYS and SATURDAYS at 4 P. M. Also, for Greenport, Sag Harbor, Hamptons, &c., stopping at all stations. For Islip, at 9 A. M. and 4 P. M. For Syosset, at 9 A. M., 11 A. M. and 4 P. M. For Jamaica and Hempstead, at 9 and 11 A. M., and 4 and 5 P. M.

Sunday excursion trains to Islip, at 9:15 A. M., from 34th-st., stopping at all stations.

Fare for this train at excursion rates.

For Syosset, (on Sundays,) at 5:45 P. M., stopping at all stations. A. REASONER, Superintendent.

HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD.—FOR ALBANY, TROY, THE NORTH AND WEST.—Trains leave:

FROM CHAMBERS-ST.	FROM THIRTIETH-ST.
Express, 7 and 10 A. M., and 3:15 and 5 P. M.	7:22, 10:27 A. M. and 3:37 and 5:22 P. M.
Troy and Albany, (with sleeping car,) 10:30 P. M.	10:57 P. M.

On SUNDAYS, at 5:22 P. M., from 30th-st.

Tickets may be procured at any of the offices of Westcott's Express, in New-York and Brooklyn, and baggage checked at the house to all points on the road, and to Saratoga Springs.

ERIE RAILWAY.—PASSENGER TRAINS leave from foot of Chambers-st.

7 A. M.—Express for Buffalo.
8:30 A. M.—Milk, daily, for Otisville.
10 A. M.—Mail, for Buffalo and intermediate stations.
4:15 P. M.—Way, for Port Jervis and Newburgh.
5 P. M.—Night Express, daily, for Dunkirk, Buffalo, Rochester, Canandaigua, &c. The train of Saturday runs through to Buffalo, but does not run to Dunkirk.

CHAS. MINOT, General Superintendent.

RARITAN AND DELAWARE BAY RAILROAD.—The steamboat J. D. BEERS will leave the wharf foot of Murray-st., EVERY AFTERNOON, (except Sundays,) at 3 o'clock, connecting at Port Monmouth with trains for Middletown, Red Bank, Long Branch, Shark River, Farmingdale, Tom's River and intermediate stations. Returning, leave Manchester at 6:40 A. M., and Long Branch at 7:25 A. M., arriving in New-York at 10:15 A. M. A freight train, with passenger car attached, leaves Port Monmouth every morning for Camden. Freight received foot of Murray-st. till 2:30 P. M. B. S. SEYMOUR, General Superintendent.

NEW-YORK, HARLEM AND ALBANY RAILROAD.—Increased accommodations. Trains for Albany, Troy, the North and West, leave 26th-st. Depot at 10 A. M. and 4:25 P. M.

Sunday trains leave New-York for Albany at 4:25 P. M. and Albany for New-York at 9:15 A. M.

JOHN BURCHILL, Superintendent.

NORTHERN R. R. OF NEW-JERSEY.—Trains leave Jersey City at 5:10 A. M., 9:15 A. M., 1:15 P. M., 4:20 P. M., and 6:05 P. M. The 9:15 and 4:20 run to Monsey.

Oct. 12, 1863. THOS. W. DEMAREST, Sup't.

MORRIS AND ESSEX RAILROAD COMPANY, FOOT OF BARCLAY-STREET.—Through Mail trains for Hackettstown and intermediate stations leave New-York at 9 A. M. and 4 P. M. Morristown Express at 5 P. M. J. B. BASSINGER, Superintendent.

PUBLIC NOTICES.

CORPORATION NOTICE.—PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, to the owner or owners, occupant or occupants of all Houses and Lots, improved or unimproved Lands, affected thereby, that the following Assessments have been completed and are lodged in the office of the Board of Assessors for examination by all persons interested, viz.:

For paving Twenty-first-street from Fifth to Sixth avenues.

For building a sewer in Washington-street, from Horatio to Gansevoort streets.

For flagging sidewalks in Forty-ninth-street, between Broadway and Eighth-avenue.

For regulating and flagging Fifty-eighth-street, between Lexington and Third avenues.

For flagging and setting curb and gutter stones at southeast corner of Leonard and Church streets.

For flagging and setting curb and gutter in Fifty eighth-street, between Second and Third avenues.

For filling lots east side of Broadway, between Fifty seventh and Fifty-eighth streets.

The limits embraced by such Assessment, include all the several Houses and Lots of Ground, vacant Lots, pieces and parcels of land, situated on both sides of Twenty-first-street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues. Also, all the lots on both sides of Washington-street, between Horatio and Gansevoort streets. Also, all the lots on both sides of Fifty-eight-street, between Second and Lexington avenues. Also, all the property at the southeast corner of Leonard and Church streets, to the extent of one hundred and twenty-six feet on Church-street, and one hundred and seventeen feet on Leonard-street. Also, all the lots fronting on the east side of Broadway, between Fifty-seventh and Fifty-eighth streets, together with Ward numbers Fifty, Fifty-one and Fifty-two on the south side of Fifty-eighth-street, being in the immediate rear of the lots on Broadway. Also, the lots in Block number Fifty, on the south side of Forty-ninth-street, known as Ward numbers Seven, Eight, Nine, Ten and Eleven, and Ward number Forty-six in Block number Forty-nine, on the north side of Forty-ninth-street.

All persons whose interests are affected by the above-named assessments, and who are opposed to the same, or either of them, are requested to present their objections, in writing, to one of the undersigned, at their office, No. 32 Chambers-street, basement New Court-house, within thirty days from the date of this notice.

CHAS. McNEILL,
JACOB F. OAKLEY, } Board of Assessors.
WM. A. DOOLEY,

OFFICE BOARD OF ASSESSORS,
NEW COURT-HOUSE, Dec. 22, 1863.

OFFICE OF THE A. A. PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
SOUTHERN DIVISION OF NEW-YORK.
NEW-YORK, Dec 26, 1863.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE printed lists of the names and residences of all persons enrolled under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved March 3, 1863, as subject to do military duty in the several districts comprising this division, viz.: City and County of New-York, Kings, Queens, Richmond, Westchester, Rockland and Putnam Counties, are exposed to view, for the inspection of the public, at each of the following places:

Headquarters Provost-Marshal, each district, the Police stations, and each of the places where the polls were held at the recent election.

Any person enrolled may appear before the Board of Enrollment of the District, and claim to have his name stricken from the list, if he can show to the satisfaction of the Board that he is not, and will not be, at the time fixed for the next draft, (Jan. 5, 1864,) liable to military duty on account of,

First—Alienage.
Second—Non-residence.
Third—Unsuitableness of age.
Fourth—Manifest permanent physical disability.

The time fixed for hearing such cases will expire on the 5th of January, 1864.

WILLIAM HAYS, Brig.-Gen. Vols.,
and A. A. P. M. General.

THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL AFFAIRS will meet every day, until further notice, in the Chamber of the Board of Aldermen, at 1 o'clock P. M. Parties having business with the Committee are respectfully invited to attend.

Alderman TERENCE FARLEY,
Alderman PETER MITCHELL,
Alderman JOHN T. HENRY,
Alderman F. I. A. BOOLE,
Alderman JOHN D. OTTIWELL,
Councilman WM. JOYCE,
Councilman SAMUEL WEBSTER,
Councilman JOHN McCONNELL,
Councilman ALEX. BRANDON,
Councilman JOHN G. HAVILAND.

THE COMMITTEE ON ROADS OF THE Board of Aldermen will meet every FRIDAY, at two o'clock P. M., in Room number twelve, City Hall. All persons interested in matters pending the action of the Committee, are invited to attend.

TERENCE FARLEY,
JACOB M. LONG,
PETER MASTERSON,
Committee.

THE COMMITTEE ON SEWERS OF THE Board of Aldermen will meet every WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock P. M., in Room number eight, City Hall. Parties interested in any matter before the Committe will have an opportunity of being heard.

GEORGE A. JEREMIAH,
TERENCE FARLEY,
CHARLES H. HALL,
Committee on Sewers.

THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDings, of the Board of Aldermen, will meet every TUESDAY, in Room No. 8 City Hall, at 1 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of considering all papers referred to such Committee. All parties interested will please attend without further notice.

PETER MASTERSON,
JOHN FOX, } Committee on Public Buildings.
LEWIS R. RYERS,

THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH of the Board of Aldermen will meet in Room number twelve, City Hall, on TUESDAY of each week, at two o'clock P. M., until further notice. All persons interested in papers awaiting the action of the Committee are requested to attend.

TERENCE FARLEY,
JACOB M. LONG,
JOHN D. OTTIWELL,
Committee.

THE COMMITTEE ON POLICE OF THE Board of Aldermen will meet every WEDNESDAY, at 1 o'clock P. M., in Room No. 8, City Hall, for the purpose of investigating all papers referred to them. All persons interested are respectfully requested to appear before the Committee without further notice.

PETER MASTERSON,
GEO. A. JEREMIAH, } Committee on Police.
CHAS. H. HALL,

THE COMMITTEE ON FIRE DEPARTMENT of the Board of Aldermen, will meet every SATURDAY, at two o'clock, in the City Library Room, City Hall.

JOHN McCOOL,
PETER MITCHELL,
LEWIS R. RYERS,
Committee on Fire Department.

PERSONAL.

PAUL S. BROWN, CORNER NINTH-ST. and 3d-av., respectfully calls attention during the holidays to his richly ornamented plum, pound, fancy cakes, pyramids, &c. Early purchasers will find an unusually large and attractive number of cakes offered for their selection. Ornamenting, frosting, &c., done to order. Weddings and parties supplied.

WANTED—INFORMATION OF PATRICK MANAGAN. He left New-York the 1st of June last. Any information will be thankfully received by his wife, MARY MANAGAN, at No. 63 Rector-st.

SHIPPING.

GALWAY LINE.

THE ATLANTIC IRISH ROYAL MAIL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

ADRIATIC, 1,200 Horse-power, 4,000 Tons.
HIBERNIA, 1,000 Horse-power, 3,000 Tons.
COLUMBIA, 1,000 Horse-power, 3,000 Tons.
ANGLIA, 1,000 Horse-power, 3,000 Tons.

The magnificent side-wheel Steamship HIBERNIA, Capt. MORAN.

will sail from BOSTON, for GALWAY and LIVERPOOL, on TUESDAY, Dec. 29, to be followed by the ADRIATIC, from NEW-YORK, Jan. 12.

Rates of passage, payable in gold or its equivalent in currency: First Cabin, $80; Intermediate, $40; Steerage, $30. New York to St. Johns, $40, $30, $20.

Passengers forwarded also to London, Paris, Hamburg, Havre, Bremen, Rotterdam, Antwerp, &c., at lowest rates.

Fares from Liverpool or Galway to New-York and Boston, $30, $40, $85, $105.

For passage, apply to SABEL & SEARLE,
No. 23 Broadway.

For rates of freight and specie, and all other information, apply to LAWRENCE, GILES & CO.,
No. 11 South William-st.

THE BRITISH AND NORTH AMERICAN ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIPS,

BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND LIVERPOOL, CALLING AT CORK HARBOR,
AND BETWEEN BOSTON AND LIVERPOOL, CALLING AT HALIFAX AND CORK HARBOR.

CANADA leaves Boston Wednesday, Dec. 23.
AUSTRALASIAN leaves New-York Wednesday, Dec. 30.
ASIA leaves Boston Wednesday, Jan. 6.
PERSIA leaves New-York Wednesday, Jan. 13.
AFRICA leaves Boston Wednesday, Jan. 20.
SCOTIA leaves New-York Wednesday, Jan. 27.

FROM NEW-YORK TO LIVERPOOL.	
Chief Cabin Passage	$132 50
Second Cabin Passage	80 00
FROM BOSTON TO LIVERPOOL.	
Chief Cabin Passage	$112 50
Second Cabin Passage	65 00

payable in gold, or its equivalent in United States currency.

Berths not secured until paid for.

An experienced Surgeon on board.

The owners of these ships will not be accountable for Specie or Valuables unless bills of lading having the value expressed are signed therefor.

For freight or passage apply to E. CUNARD, No. 4 Bowling-green.

STEAM WEEKLY TO LIVERPOOL— Touching at QUEENSTOWN, (CORK HARBOR.) The well-known Steamers of the Liverpool, New-York and Philadelphia Steamship Company are intended to sail as follows:

CITY OF WASHINGTON ... Saturday ... Dec. 26
EDINBURGH ... Saturday ... Jan. 2

and every succeeding Saturday, at Noon, from Pier No. 44, North River.

RATES OF PASSAGE.

Payable in Gold, or its equivalent in Currency.

First Cabin	$80 00	Steerage	$30 00
First Cabin to London	85 00	Steerage to London	34 00
First Cabin to Paris	95 00	Steerage to Paris	40 00
First Cabin to Hamburg	90 00	Steerage to Hamburgh	37 00

Passengers also forwarded to Havre, Bremen, Rotterdam, Antwerp, &c., at equally low rates.

Fares from Liverpool or Queenstown: First Cabin, $75, $85, $105; Steerage, $30. Those who wish to send for their friends can buy tickets here at these rates.

For further information, apply at the Company's Offices.

JOHN G. DALE, Agent, No. 15 Broadway, New-York.

NATIONAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO.

The undersigned will dispatch one of the undermentioned or other first-class full powered British built steamers from

NEW-YORK TO LIVERPOOL,
calling at Queenstown to land passengers and latest TELEGRAPHIC DISPATCHES.

Ship.	Tons.	Commander.	To sail.
VIRGINIA	2,876	Grace.	Tuesday, Dec. 29.

These steamers have been all built under the inspection of the Chief Surveyor to the Liverpool Underwriters' Registry of Iron Ships, they have extra water-tight compartments, and classed first-class for 22 years.

They are fitted up for first, second, and third-class passengers, which are charged at the following rates:

First Cabin ... { $90 / 75 } Payable in Currency.
Steerage ... 35

Dietary and accommodation unsurpassed by any other line of steamers.

For further particulars, apply to WILLIAMS & GUION, No. 71 Wall-st.

STEAM TO LONDONDERRY, GLASGOW AND LIVERPOOL.

The Montreal Steamship Company's first-class full-powered Clyde-built steamer

NOVA SCOTIAN,
Capt. BALLANTYNE,

carrying the Canadian and United States Mails, will sail from Portland next

SATURDAY, Dec. 26.

Rates of passage from New-York: First-class, according to accommodations, $87 and $72. Steerage, found with good provisions, $32 50, payable in Gold or its equivalent in United States currency. Certificates issued for bringing out passengers from all the principal towns in Great Britain and Ireland at very low rates. For passage, apply at No. 23 Broadway, New-York.

SABEL & SEARLE, General Agents.

FOR NEW-ORLEANS DIRECT.

The new and first-class United States Mail Steamship GEORGE WASHINGTON,
Capt. E. V. GAGER,

will leave Pier No. 9, North River, on SATURDAY, Jan. 2, at 3 P. M.

Passage, having unsurpassed accommodations, $60.

For freight or passage, apply to H. B. CROMWELL & CO., No. 86 West-st.

FOR LIVERPOOL—TAPSCOTT'S LINE.

SHIP ROGER A. HAIN ... Sails Dec. 29.
SHIP GEN McCLELLAN ... Sails Jan'y 2.

FOR LONDON—X LINE.

SHIP DANIEL WEBSTER ... Sails Jan'y 2.

For passage to or from Liverpool and London, or Drafts payable in all parts of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, at the lowest possible rates, apply to TAPSCOTT BROTHERS & CO., No. 86 South-st., N. Y.

FOR NEW-ORLEANS DIRECT.

The United States Mail Steamship CREOLE,
JOHN THOMPSON, Commander,

will leave Pier No. 13, North River, on WEDNESDAY, Dec. 30, at 3 o'clock P. M., precisely, for New-Orleans direct.

No freight received or bills of lading signed on the day of sailing.

For freight or passage, apply to LUDLAM, HEINEKEN & CO.,
No. 115 Broadway.

UNITED STATES PASSPORT OFFICE.— Passports from the Department of State furnished by A. C. WILLMARTH, U. S. Court Buildings, No. 41 Chambers-st., third story.

STEAMBOATS.

FOR NEW-HAVEN, HARTFORD AND SPRINGFIELD.—Steamers leave Peck-slip at 3:15 P. M. Passengers go north and east from New-Haven at 11 P. M., or remain on board over night without charge.

AUCTION SALES.

EDWARD SINTZENICH, Auctioneer.

MAGNIFICENT STOCK OF DIAMONDS,

WATCHES, SUPERB JEWELRY,
CAMELS' HAIR SHAWLS.

Also, some

SPLENDID ARTICLES OF JEWELRY.

THE PROPERTY OF THE LATE MME. RACHEL.

BY D. W. IVES & CO.,
At No. 625 Broadway,

On TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY MORNINGS, Dec. 22 and 23, at 11 o'clock each day.

The superb stock of diamonds and other jewelry to which we invite the especial attention of ladies and gentlemen seeking first-class and rare jewelry. Among the most notable articles are

A SUPERB DIAMOND TIARA,
VALUED AT $3,000.
TWO ELEGANT SOLITAIRE DIAMONDS,
3¾ CARATS AND 2⅝ CARATS.

Magnificent diamond and ruby suite, solitaire diamond ear-knobs, 3 carats, two suites of diamonds and rubies, formerly

THE PROPERTY OF MME. RACHEL.

A magnificent assortment of cluster rings, pins, bracelets, ruby and emerald do., beautiful watches, of French, Swiss and English make, and a great variety of fine gold, coral, enamel sets, bracelets and other ornaments, sterling silver, &c. Chatelaines, chains, charms, pencil-cases, and also a large assemblage of similar goods, suitable for New-Year's presents.

EVERY ARTICLE GUARANTEED AS REPRESENTED.

ALSO,

SOME ELEGANT CAMELS' HAIR SHAWLS,

Velvet cloaks, and one

SUPERB EMBROIDERED VELVET DRESS,

formerly belonging to Mme. Rachel, and worn by her in "Adrienne." Cost 8,000 francs in Paris.

On exhibition, and catalogues day before sale. Every facility for examination of the goods.

DANIEL H. BURDETT, Auctioneer.

UNITED STATES MARSHAL'S SALE.

BY BURDETT, JONES & CO.

By virtue of a writ of venditioni exponas to me directed and delivered, I will sell at public auction, on the 30th day of December, at 12 o'clock A. M., at the Union Stores, Brooklyn, the prize steamer PATRAS, her tackle, apparel, furniture, engines, &c., as she now lies at the Union Stores, Brooklyn.

ROBERT MURRAY, U. S. Marshal.

DANL. H. BURDETT, Auctioneer.

U. S. MARSHAL'S SALE.

BY BURDETT, JONES & CO.

By virtue of a Writ of Venditioni Exponas to me directed and delivered, I will sell at public auction, on the 7th day of January, 1864, at 11 o'clock A. M., at the Union Stores, Brooklyn, 500 bbls. Resin, part of the cargo of prize ship ALLIANCE. R. MURRAY, U. S. Marshal.

Dec. 26, 1863.

TO HENRY HELLEWELL, WM. A. PIXBY, AND OTHERS WHOM IT MAY CONCERN—NOTICE.—I will sell at auction, for storage and charges, two sets wire rolls and lot of shovel machinery and tools, at the Empire Works, foot of East 25th-st., on SATURDAY, Jan. 2, 1864, at 10 A. M. SAMUEL LEGGETT.

HORSES AND CARRIAGES.

FOR SALE—A HANDSOME, STYLISH COUPE, nearly new. Apply at the carriage establishment of WOOD BROTHERS, Broadway, just above the Metropolitan Hotel.

WANTED—A LIGHT SECOND-HAND EXPRESS or other wagon, with top, in good order. For price, which must be low, address C., Box No. 130 Times Office.

BOARDING AND LODGING.

BOARDING.—A FINELY FURNISHED PARlor and two bedrooms to let, with board, in a private family, on 35th-st., near 5th-av. Address Box No. 4,926 Post-office.

AMUSEMENTS.

BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

GRAND LITERARY FESTIVAL,
WITH
PROMENADE CONCERT
AND
SOIREE DANSANTE,
ON
TUESDAY EVENING, Dec. 29.

On this occasion only,
R. J. DE CORDOVA, Esq.,
will recite his new Poem,
"THE SOLDIER,"
WITH MUSICAL ACCOMPANIMENTS.

This Poem created a great sensation at the New-York Academy of Music, on the occasion of the Ladies' Festival, on the 15th inst.

MISS BLANCHE CARPENTER,

whose debut at the last Philharmonic Concert was so eminently successful, will perform an arrangement of Patriotic Airs, with variations, composed by her expressly for this occasion.

THE ENTIRE BAND
OF THE SEVENTH REGIMENT, N. Y. S. M.,
has been engaged. C. S. GRAFULLA, Leader.

The following gentlemen have consented to act as

COMMITTEE:

L. B. Wyman, Esq.,	J. A. Degraw, Esq.,
A. C. Hull, Esq.,	E. J. Lowber, Esq.,
E. A. Lambert, Esq.,	E. S. Mills, Esq.,

and J. Van Anden, Esq.

Tickets to admit lady and gentleman, $1; ladies' (single) tickets, 50 cents. Can be had at the principal book, music, drug stores, the Academy, and members of the Committee, Brooklyn; Beer & Schirmer's, No. 701 Broadway, New-York.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

THE OPERA.

Director ... MAX MARETZEK

POSITIVELY LAST NIGHT BUT ONE,
previous to the departure of the company for Boston.
ON MONDAY EVENING, DEC. 28, AT 8 O'CLOCK,
will be produced Petrella's new and highly successful Opera, in four acts of

IONE;
OR, THE LAST DAYS OF POMPEII,

with the new and gorgeous mise en scene and the great original cast.

Ione	Mme. JOSEPHINE MEDORI
Nidia, a slave	Mlle. SULZER
Glauco, the Athenian	Signor MAZZOLENI
Arbaces, High Priest of Isis	Signor BELLINI
Burbo, a tavern keeper	Signor BIACHI
Salustio, a Patrician, Glauco's friend	Sig. REICHARDT
Clodio, a Patrician, Glauco's friend	Herr MULLER
Circe, Ion's slave	Mlle. MILNER
Conductor	Signor J. NUNO

The regular sale of secured seats and tickets will commence TO-MORROW MORNING, at the box-office of the Academy, at Beer & Schirmer's, No. 701 Broadway, and at Root & Anthony's, corner Nassau and Pine sts., from 8 to 5.

NIBLO'S SALOON.

Miss LUCY SIMONS' GRAND CONCERT ON THURSDAY EVENING, Dec. 31,

assisted by the following eminent artists, (by kind permission of Mr. J. Grau:)

Sig. STEFANI, Sig. MORELLI,
Sig. REMI.

Musical Director ... Signor MUZIO

Tickets, including reserved seats, $1; to be had on Monday at Beer & Schirmer's music store.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

"Miss Simons has a most pleasing soprano voice; she has considerable power; she sings with great expression, her countenance lighting up, showing that the *artiste* has feeling and sentiment. Her execution is really fine, and her voice shows that it has been carefully cultivated."—*New-York Herald.*

"This young lady completely surprised and entranced her listeners. It is no exaggeration to say that her voice is one of the finest and best trained sopranos that we have heard among American ladies. She employs it with a skill and taste rarely looked for in professional *artistes* of long standing, and almost inconceivable in a *débutante.*"—*New-York Times.*

"Miss Simons' *début* was the most successful one we ever witnessed. She must be set down as an artist of rare accomplishment.... She appeared with credit to herself and to her master Signor Muzio, who has reason indeed to be proud of his pupil."—*Express.*

NIBLO'S SALOON.

Repetition of
Mr. DE CORDOVA'S
successful course of
HUMOROUS LECTURES.

"OUR FIRST BABY."

A tale of home.

Sequel to the celebrated lecture on "Courtship and Marriage."

MONDAY EVENING, Jan. 4, 1864.

"THE AMATEUR THEATRICAL ASSOCIATION."
A tale of fun.
MONDAY EVENING, Jan. 11,

"Mr. PERKINS'S THANKSGIVING DINNER."
A tale of shoddy.
MONDAY EVENING, Jan. 18.

Course tickets, $1 each; single admission, 50 cents. To be had at all the music and book-stores.

Doors open at 7. Entertainment to commence at 8 o'clock.

FIFTH-AVENUE SKATING POND.

Season tickets for a gentleman	$5
Season tickets for ladies	2
Season tickets for boys under 15 years	3

For sale at the Astor House, St. Nicholas and Metropolitan Hotels. Principal office at the 5th-av. Hotel, in the Reading Room.

MUSICAL.

PIANO TUITION.—A LADY OF EXPERIENCE and well qualified to teach, is desirous of giving lessons, either at her own, or the residence of those wishing to learn. Particular attention bestowed upon beginners. For terms, &c., which will be moderate, address H., Box No. 130 *Times* Office.

PIANOS.—THE BEST ARE THE CHEAPEST.—The FISCHER PIANOS, the strongest and best pianos made; overstrung, iron frame, and all modern improvements. Wholesale and retail at reasonable prices at No. 245 West 28th-st., near 9th-av.

A LADY HAVING A FINE PIANO WHICH she uses but little, would like to hire it out for practice at her own house. Address L. C., Box No. 185 *Times* Office.

WILLIAM HALL & SON, NO. 543 BROADWAY, manufacturers of New Scale Piano Fortes, with iron frame, over-strung and all modern improvements, from $375 to $600, warranted for 5 years.

REAL ESTATE.

FOR SALE CHEAP—TWO LOTS OF GROUND and four houses, two front and two rear, on the south side of North 7th-st., between 6th and 7th sts., Williamsburgh. This property cost over $6,000; will be sold for $2,500. A good opportunity for an investment, being a part of the estate of the late Dr. Vermeule. For particulars, inquire of Mrs. VERMEULE, No. 62½ Columbia-st., or of JAMES L. PARSHALL, Special Guardian, at Morrisania, Westchester County, N. Y.

ORANGE, N. J.—VILLAS, VILLA SITES AND farms, a great variety, beautifully situated, one hour from New-York, for sale low. Also, country seats and houses to let for the season or year, by HENRY B. BLACKWELL, No. 50 William-st., New-York, 9 to 11 A. M.; No. 49 Main-st., Orange, 1 to 5 P. M.

HOUSE AND LOT FOR SALE.—LOT 22X98; house four stories, with modern improvements, and in first-rate order; the location is one of the pleasantest in the City. Apply at No. 26 Lamartine-place, from 11 to 3 o'clock. Price, $14,000.

TO EXCHANGE FOR NEW FURNITURE AND CARPETS—160 acres of land in Iowa; price $200. Address Box No. 139 *Times* Office.

FARMS.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.—A FARM OF 87 acres of land, in a high state of cultivation near the City of New-York. The place is well watered, has plenty of fruit, and the buildings are in perfect order. It is well adapted to a dairy or gardening. Horses, carriages and farming utensils will be disposed of with the place, if desired. Inquire of WM. H. NAFIS,
No. 25 Chambers-st.

TO LET.

FOR RENT.—THE AMERICAN BANK-NOTE Company offers for rent, until May 1, 1866, the whole of the upper or fifth floor of Trinity Building; also, the western half of the basement and sub-basement floors, to which there are entrances both on Trinity-place and Thames-street. These premises are furnished with water, gas and steam power.

The Company also offers for rent the second and third floors of the brick building, No. 76 John-st., where steam power can be obtained, if wanted. Apply to WM. R. BLISS,
Secretary of the American Bank-Note Company.

TO LET OR LEASE.—THE SPACIOUS AND well-ventilated and lighted rooms now occupied by the Great Western Insurance Company, No. 33 Pine-st. These rooms are warmed by Gould's patent steam furnace, and handsomely furnished with desks and counters well adapted for banking and insurance, having two fire and burglar-proof brick and stone safes, built up from the ground in the most approved manner. Apply at the office.

TO LEASE FOR A TERM OF YEARS— The whole of Pier No. 2, North River, with the adjoining bulkheads; is well situated for a Steamship Company or a Ferry Depot. It is 600 feet long, and covered with a valuable shed; is now occupied by the Central Railroad Company of New-Jersey. Apply to WARD McALLISTER, at Office of Estate of Stephen Whitney, No. 128 Broadway.

AN UNUSUALLY DESIRABLE SUITE of five rooms, communicating, with southern exposure, can be seen at No. 7 West 25th-st.; private table if desired.

PART OF LOFTS TO LET OF NO. 312 Broadway. Inquire of LEE, BLISS & CO., No. 314 Broadway.

TO LET—THE BASEMENT UNDER THE TIMES Office, fronting Park-row, 32x16 feet. Inquire in office of the *Agriculturist*, No. 41 Park-row.

STEAM POWER TO LET—AT THE EMPIRE Works, foot of East 24th-st. SAMUEL LEGGETT.

LOST AND FOUND.

ASSAY OFFICE RECEIPT LOST.—A RECEIPT, issued by the United States Assay Office, New-York, No. 1,064, dated 4th day of December, 1863, for 378 90-100 ounces gold bullion, payable to A. E. Bauer or order, has been lost. The public are cautioned not to receive or negotiate the same as its payment has been stopped at the Assay Office.

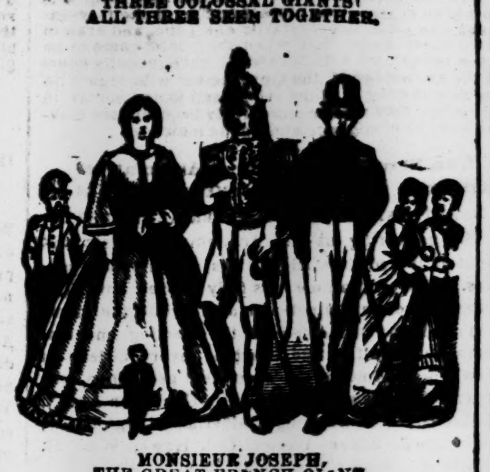
A. E. BAUER No. 53 Ann-st.

New-York, Dec. 26, 1863.

AMUSEMENTS.

BARNUM'S AMERICAN MUSEUM.

THREE COLOSSAL GIANTS!
ALL THREE SEEN TOGETHER.



MONSIEUR JOSEPH,
THE GREAT FRENCH GIANT,
an ex-officer of the French army,
EIGHT FEET FOUR INCHES HIGH!
WEIGHS 400 POUNDS!!

The tallest and finest man ever seen on the face of the Globe.

ANNA SWAN, THE NOVA SCOTIA
GIANT GIRL,
aged 17 years, yet
EIGHT FEET ONE INCH HIGH!
GIANT BOY,
19 years old, and
FULL EIGHT FEET HIGH.
THE MOST TOWERING SPECIMENS OF HUMANITY
ever beheld by mortal eyes. In contrast with them are
TWO OF THE SMALLEST DWARFS
ever known in the world.
GEN. GRANT, JR.,
12 YEARS OLD, 23 INCHES HIGH, and
WEIGHS BUT 18¾ POUNDS.
THE LILIPUTIAN KING,
FOURTEEN YEARS OLD,
ONLY TWENTY-TWO INCHES HIGH,
WEIGHING BUT SEVENTEEN POUNDS!
the most extraordinary specimens of
THE LONG AND THE SHORT
of humanity ever seen.
KELLY'S AUTOMATON MUSICAL TROUPE,
consisting of six figures, size of life, which play upon
NOVEL PIANOS OR HARPERIANS,
producing music equal to a full orchestra.
THREE GROUPS OF MOVING WAX FIGURES,
THE MONSTER SERPENTS,
GRAND AQUARIA, SEA LION, MAMMOTH BEAR,
ROBERT HOUDIN'S AUTOMATON WRITER,
EDUCATED SEAL, which plays a MUSICAL INSTRUMENT.
SPECKLED BROOK TROUT,
weighing 7½ pounds!
BRILLIANT SUCCESS
OF
TOM TAYLOR'S GREAT DRAMA,

THE
TICKET
OF
LEAVE MAN

THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,
which has been presented to
CROWDED AND ADMIRING AUDIENCES.
It will be played
EVERY AFTERNOON, at 3 o'clock, and
EVERY EVENING, at 7½ o'clock.

No drama has been produced in New-York for years, that HAS CREATED MORE LIVELY INTEREST than this popular and powerful production.

HERR ZIROM,
from the principal concert-rooms of Europe,
GIVES HIS WONDERFUL PERFORMANCE
on the
EMMELYNKA, or MOUTH HARMONICA.
DORA DAWRON, IN HER DOUBLE-VOICED DUET.
Admission 25 cents. Children under ten, 15 cents.
☞ GREAT PREPARATIONS ARE MAKING FOR NEW YEAR.

PARK THEATRE—BROOKLYN.

Lessee and Manager ... Mr. Gabriel Harrison
Stage Manager ... Mr. B. A. Baker

MONDAY EVENING, Dec. 28,
DYING FOR LOVE.
SLEEPING BEAUTY IN THE WOOD.
TWO BONNYCASTLES.

Mr. J. Whiting, Mr. Walter Lennox, Mr. Geo. Rea, Mr. Geo. Metkiff, Miss Mary Shaw, Miss Kate Singleton, Mrs. G. F. Tyrrell will appear.

FULL CHORUS AND CORPS DE BALLET.
MONDAY, Jan. 4,
ENGLISH OPERA TROUPE.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

STERLING GOODS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

(And all time,)
GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES,
and fine Gold Jewelry,
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,
Staple Goods for the Holidays, and Lasting Tokens,
AT LOW PRICES.
T. B. BYNNER,
Importer and Dealer in Watches and Jewelry,
No. 175 BROADWAY, N. Y. UP STAIRS.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

ROMAN, FRENCH AND ENGLISH SCARFS,
JUST RECEIVED, ENTIRELY NEW STYLES,
EXPRESSLY FOR THE HOLIDAYS.
FINE SCARF PINS AND RINGS,
DRESSING ROBES, CARDIGAN JACKETS, SUSPENDERS, GLOVES, LARGE ASSORTMENT OF GENT'S FURNISHING GOODS. LOW PRICES.
No. 101 WILLIAM-ST., 4 DOORS BELOW JOHN-ST.
GEO. M. TRACY, AGENT.

MUSICAL BOXES.

The largest and ONLY complete stock of Musical Boxes to be found in America, is now offered for sale at Wholesale and retail by the undersigned, at prices varying from $2 75 to $350 00. M. J. PAILLARD, Importer,
No. 21 Maiden-lane, (up stairs,) New-York.

NATURAL FLOWERS,

Bouquets and Baskets of Flowers, for New Year's, got up in the best style by FITZPATRICK, Florist, 29th-st. and Broadway. N. B.—A fine assortment of baskets and stands on hand to select from.

HOLIDAY GOODS FORWARDED BY the HARNDEN EXPRESS, No. 74 Broadway, to any point North, South, East or West, or to Soldiers in any Union camp or field, and delivered with care and dispatch.

Bills collected with or without the goods. Valuable packages receive particular attention from our Special Messengers, who accompany each train. Rates low.

GROCERIES & PROVISIONS.

$200! $150! $100! $50!

PREMIUMS.

TO EDITORS, LADIES AND OTHERS:

I will pay the above-named amounts for the best four articles on either my SOAP, SALERATUS or CONCENTRATED POTASH.

The articles must state the writer's experience in using the goods, and must be not less than ten lines, and be published in the editorial columns of any good family newspaper.

Any party wishing to compete for the above, and desiring further information, may address the undersigned. Each person writing and publishing a notice as above, will mail a marked copy of the paper containing the notice to me, and also write me by mail, giving full address.

The Premiums will be awarded on the 4th day of July, 1864.

B. T. BABBITT,
Nos. 64 to 74 Washington-st., New-York.

NEW-HAVEN, Conn., Oct. 22, 1863.

To B. T. BABBITT:

SIR: Observing your Premium advertisement in the *Scientific American*, I concluded to state, in a few words, what I knew of the merits of your soap, having used it enough to conscientiously say that it is all that it is represented to be.

I wish to ask you if it is necessary to write my name in full under the article, should I put it in one of the New-Haven papers.

If the article, which is on the next page is of no account, please say so, and that will end the matter; if it is acceptable, it will appear in the paper immediately.

J. D. W.

B. T. BABBITT'S SOAP

right golden day that ever gave
he world a man who cares to save
etimes the toil of womankind.
man with an ingenious mind
estows a real gift to us;
ecause experience proves it thus.
n every way its claims to aid,
here's none but true assertions made.
hus to affirm the truth we're bold,
ince using this we are not sold;
aving our time and patience too—
ur friends will find this statement true.
single trial and you can
erceive that BABBITT is the man.—J. D. W.

DENTISTRY.

AT DR. WAIT'S, NO. 98 FOURTH-AV.,

Opposite 11th-st.

Teeth handsomely inserted	$8 00
Gum blocks, perfect imitation of nature	20 00
Teeth filled, gold	1 00
Teeth filled, silver or dentine	50
Teeth extracted, positively without pain	50

COLTON

DENTAL ASSOCIATION,

Originated and made a specialty in the use of the Nitrous Oxide Gas for painless teeth extracting.

No. 22 Bond-st., G. Q. COLTON, JOHN ALLEN & SON.

N. B. GRIFFIN & BROS., NO. 258 GRAND-st., New-York, and No. 257 Fulton-st., Brooklyn, are extracting Teeth positively without pain, by the use of nitrous oxide gas. No charge for extracting when artificial teeth are to be inserted. They are also inserting full sets of Teeth on Gold, $25; Platina, $25; Silver, $10; Rubber, $10. Partial sets on gold, $3; silver, $1. Extracting, 25 cents.

COMMISSIONER FOR NEW-JERSEY and other States—No. 5 Beekman-st., Room No. 6, ... Park Bank.

AMUSEMENTS.

VAN AMBURGH & CO'S MENAGERIE.

GREAT MORAL EXHIBITION
AND
EGYPTIAN CARAVAN.

HYATT FROST ... Manager

Nos. 539 and 541 BROADWAY,
between Prince and Spring sts.

Doors open from 10 A. M. to 10 P. M. Performances at 11½ A. M., 3, and 8¼ P. M. Admission 25 cents. No half price.

SEVENTH SUCCESSFUL WEEK
OF THIS
GREAT ZOOLOGICAL EXHIBITION.
GREAT ZOOLOGICAL EXHIBITION.
GREAT ZOOLOGICAL EXHIBITION.
UNEQUALED IN THE WORLD.
UNEQUALED IN THE WORLD.
UNEQUALED IN THE WORLD.
NEW ADDITIONS
NEW ADDITIONS
NEW ADDITIONS
OF RARE ANIMALS
OF RARE ANIMALS
OF RARE ANIMALS
CONSTANTLY ARRIVING.
CONSTANTLY ARRIVING.
CONSTANTLY ARRIVING.
LANGWORTHY'S SHOOTING TIGER
LANGWORTHY'S SHOOTING TIGER
LANGWORTHY'S SHOOTING TIGER
WILL APPEAR
WILL APPEAR
WILL APPEAR
AT EACH PERFORMANCE.
AT EACH PERFORMANCE.
AT EACH PERFORMANCE.
MORNING, AFTERNOON AND NIGHT.
MORNING, AFTERNOON AND NIGHT.
MORNING, AFTERNOON AND NIGHT.
HOLIDAY CARNIVAL
ALL THIS WEEK.

THEATRE FRANCAIS.

NIBLO'S CONCERT SALOON.
TUESDAY, Dec. 29, 1863.
First representation of
LA DAME DE ST. TROPEZ.
Family Drama in five acts by M. Dennery,
taken from the judiciary annales.
PROCESS OF MME. LAFARGE.
Played by the whole company

Doors open at 7¼; curtain will rise at 8 o'clock precisely.

FRIDAY, THE 1st of JANUARY, 1864,
EXTRA PERFORMANCE FOR NEW-YEAR'S DAY,
BY THE REQUEST OF FAMILIES.
ADMISSION 50 cents TO ALL PLACES OF THE THEATRE.

This performance begins at 8½ o'clock; will have no intermission, and will terminate at 11 o'clock, the latest. Grand distribution of Toys to the Children by "ACOFRIBAS," the ENCHANTER, who has recently arrived in New-York with LES PATTINS DE VIOLETTE.

NOTICE—Every Child will be entitled to a Toy, equal in value to his price of admission. First representation of LES ETRENNES DE M. POISSON, Comic Vaudeville in one act.

First and only time of the Enchanted Scene of Acofribas, THE NEW YEAR'S DAY IN NEW-YORK.

The Programme of this performance will be,

1. Je dine Chez ma Mère—Comedie Vaudeville in 1 act.
2. Musical Intermède by Mlle. Maillet.
3. Les Deux Aveugles—Bouffonerie musicale.

NIBLO'S SALOON.

GRAND CONCERT
FOR THE
BENEFIT
OF THE
CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR,
On MONDAY EVENING, Dec. 28, 1863.

The following eminent artists have kindly volunteered:

MRS. JOHNSTON, (late Mary E. Hawley.)
MISS MINA GEARY,
MR. J. R. THOMAS,
MR. GUSTAVUS GEARY,
MR. J. N. PATTISON,
MR. JOHANNES SENIA,
MR. JAMES G. MAEDER.

Tickets Fifty cents each.

May be procured at Beer & Schirmer, No. 701 Broadway; Scharfenberg & Luis, No. 758 Broadway; Appleton & Co., No. 443 Broadway; T. F. Frank, No. 875 Broadway; J. R. Morewood, No. 61 Broad-st.; Pickard & Andresen, No. 75 Gold-st.; T. M. Brانie, No. 113 Pearl-st.; Robert Waller, No. 53 Cedar-st., and at the door on the evening of the Concert.

Doors open at 7, to commence at 8 o'clock.

WINTER GARDEN.

GRAND HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT.
THE GREAT SENSATION OF THE SEASON,
Tom Taylor's beautiful drama,
THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,
in which
MR. AND MRS. W. J. FLORENCE
will appear
ON MONDAY AND EVERY NIGHT.

"The whole effect of the play is so ethical," writes District-Attorney A. Oakey Hall, in his brilliant criticism, "that I wish the philanthropists of the day, who so shamefully neglect the Prison Aid Society, and who so culpably leave the care of the returned convict to his pals, could see the Ticket-of-Leave and your acting. The two should run together in the City far beyond New-Year's; and you should not receive your "actor's ticket-of-leave" until every clergyman and boy in the Metropolitan Police District had seen the impersonation of the scenes between Brierly and Willoughby.

WALLACK'S.

MONDAY,
Sheridan Knowles' celebrated Comedy,
THE LOVE CHASE.
TUESDAY—Seventy-first night of
ROSEDALE.
WEDNESDAY—
MARRIED LIFE.
THURSDAY—Seventy-second night of
ROSEDALE.

Doors open at 7½; overture commencing at 7¾; curtain rises at its conclusion.

PRICES OF ADMISSION.

Dress circle and parquet	50 cents
Reserved seats in dress circle	75 cents
Family Circle	25 cents
Orchestra stalls	$1
Private boxes	7

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

GRAND CONCERT OF THE
TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT, N. G. S. N. Y.,
TUESDAY EVENING, Dec. 29.
MADAME D'ANGRI,
MRS. VAN ZANDT,
SIGNOR CENTEMERI,
SIGNOR ABELLA,
HELMSMULLER,
TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT BAND.

Doors open at 7 o'clock. Concert commences at 8 o'clock.

TICKETS ONE DOLLAR,

to be procured at the music stores, hotels, from members of the Regiment, and at the door on the evening of the concert.

SKATING AT SYLVAN LAKE, HOBOKEN, foot of 7th-st., 10 minutes' walk from the ferry. Admission—Gentlemen 15 cents; ladies and children 10 cents. On Monday afternoon and evening, Dec. 28, Schiebel's National Brass Band will be present.

DANCING.

A. DODWORTH'S DANCING ACADEMIES,

No. 204 5th av., New-York.
No. 137 Montague-st., Brooklyn.

NEW-YORK CLASSES—Mondays and Thursdays or Wednesdays and Saturday.

Children at 4. Gentlemen at 8 P. M.

BROOKLYN CLASSES—Tuesdays and Fridays at 4 P. M. for children, at 8 P. M. for gentlemen.

At 10 A. M. on Saturdays for children and young ladies.

CLASSES FORMING AT J. H. SEARING'S
PRIVATE DANCING ACADEMY,
No. 292 4th-av., near 23d-st. Private lessons daily.

C. H. RIVERS' DANCING ACADEMY—NO. 33 Schermerhorn-st., Brooklyn. Several new classes are now forming. A new class for Misses and Masters on Monday and Thursday afternoons, at 4 o'clock. All the fashionable dances taught in one course of lessons. Send for a circular.

INSTRUCTION.

MESSRS. VILLEPLAIT & GRAVES' SCHOOL

will reopen Jan. 4. A few boys will be received in the family of one of the Principals, where they will receive a careful and thorough preparation for college or business. The school presents unusual advantages for the practical acquisition of French, Italian and Spanish. Address Plainfield, N. J.

MR. GEORGE C. ANTHON'S

CLASSICAL FRENCH AND ENGLISH SCHOOL,
No. 204 5th-av., corner 26th-st. Opens Sept. 9.

STAMFORD, CONN.

MISS AIKEN'S SEMINARY FOR YOUNG LADIES.

The Winter term opens Jan. 4. For circulars or information apply to the Principal at the St. Nicholas Hotel, New-York, from 12 to 3 P. M., until Jan. 2.

STAMFORD, CONN.—MISS TUCKER REceives young ladies to educate, assisted by French and German resident governesses, and by eminent Professors from New-York. Winter term commences on WEDNESDAY, Jan. 6. REFERENCES—Right Rev. John Williams, D. D., Assistant Bishop of Connecticut, Middletown, Conn.; Rev W. Mitchell, Rector, Stamford, Conn.

BOYS PREPARED FOR BUSINESS AT DOLBEAR'S COMMERCIAL ACADEMY, 613 Broadway. Can always obtain good situations in stores, offices, or banks. They become quick at figures, rapid business penmen, and practical book-keepers. Four private desks vacant.

$151 A YEAR PAYS BOARD AND TUITION at Hudson River Inst., Claverack, N.Y. Superior English, Normal, Classical, French, Musical, Painting, Military, and Commercial Departments. (both sexes.) Jan. 2, term opens. Rev. A. FLACK, A. M., Pr'l.

A CHRISTIAN HOME FOR SIX BOYS, with special care and instruction, in the family of an experienced teacher. Address Rev. J. TUFTS, Monson, Mass.

MILITARY BOARDING SCHOOL.—WHITE Plains, N.Y. Principal, OLIVER R. WILLIS, A.M.

TEACHERS.

A LADY FROM HOLSTEIN, NORTH GERmany, who speaks French and English fluently, and is an experienced teacher, wishes to engage for instruction in her native language, either in families or schools. She can produce the best of reference, and would be glad, also, to accept a home in a private family, where lessons and conversation would be accepted as an equivalent for board and lodging. Address Miss MEYER, care of A. W. Morse, No. 24 William-st.

WEDDING CARDS.

French Note Papers, Seals and Presses, Silver Plates, etc., at J. Everdell's, 302 Broadway, cor. Duane-st. For Specimens by mail, send 25 cents.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Stolen Property in New-York.

THE BUSINESS DONE WITH THE "PROPERTY CLERK" AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS—INTERESTING STATISTICS OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE POLICE AMONG THIEVES, BURGLARS, PICKPOCKETS, ETC.

In this article it is proposed to show, by statistics gathered from the most reliable sources, something of the mode in which money and other valuable property recovered from robbers in New-York by the officers of the Police Department, is disposed of.

When the number of thieves in this City that are such by birth and education, and the number of that class who weekly arrive from Europe, are taken into consideration, it is palpable that they can be counted by tens of thousands. It would be interesting to learn how many men, women and children there are in New-York whose only means of living is by theft and robbery. But that fact can never be known. To take a census of that class of people would be impossible. This, however, is known: the amount of property annually stolen in this City amounts to many millions. By far the greater portion of it is not, and in the nature of things cannot be, restored to the rightful owners. And for this reason the majority of the thieves go unwhipt of justice. Very many of the thieves are, however, arrested, and the punishment which they so much deserve is inflicted upon them in spite of all the obstacles with which right minded judges and honest jurors have to contend.

The public are perhaps not thoroughly informed as to the disposition which is made of the large amounts of valuable property that from time to time are rescued from these thieves; we therefore give as briefly as possible an outline of the system adopted in the Police Department.

In 1857 there was established at Police Headquarters a department for the custody of "stolen property." The official having charge of the same was and is now known as "the Property Clerk." For the last two years and a half, or thereabouts, this office has been filled by Mr. Richard Scott, who, from all accounts, has discharged the duties thereof most capably and faithfully.

During Mr. Scott's administration of this Department, the same has not only been made to pay the rent of office, salaries and all contingent expenses, but quite a handsome sum over and above, has been deposited in the Treasury of the Police Department.

It is the business of this "Property Clerk" to receive and make an inventory of all money and goods, delivered to him by Policemen who have taken the same from thieves and burglars, if the ownership of the property is not, at the time it is seized, satisfactorily established, upon an adjudication in a police court. Unless the person claiming the stolen property can sufficiently identify and prove his right thereto, it is handed over to the "Property Clerk," and he is responsible for its safe keeping. After having the custody of it for a specified time, and the owner or owners do not appear, it is advertised for sale at public auction. There have been five of these public sales during the past year. The last one was held on the 15th of October ult. In addition to the amount realized at the public sales during the year, of which a statement is given below, there were many kinds of goods which were sold at private sale, for the best price that could be obtained. These latter consisted exclusively of perishable articles, which could not be preserved until the usual auction sales. This class of goods—such as butchered beeves, sheep, swine, and sometimes barrels of fruit, would, in the course of two or three days, have become wholly worthless,—and therefore the necessity of disposing of them promptly. Several hundred dollars have been realized from this source the present year.

Since the first of this year, there have been received at the office very nearly 2,700 lots of goods, all of which have been wrested from thieves and burglars in this City. This property consists of almost everything, from a piano to a paper of pins; from a boiler to a box of blacking; from a boat to a box of books; from a sewing machine to a paper of cambric needles, and from a costly bridal dress to the most insignificant article of an infant's wardrobe. Gold watches, silver watches, brooches, rings, &c.; books of every description; all kinds of ladies' and gentlemen's clothing; musical instruments, chests, trunks, carpets, and all manner of household furniture. To be brief, there is scarcely any sort of goods and chattels (save a person of color) that may not in the course of a year be found in this division of the Police Department.

AMOUNT OF SALES THE PAST YEAR.

The amount realized from sales during the year has been $2,963 63. This is exclusive of private sales of perishable property above referred to. The number of lots of goods from which this amount was obtained was nine hundred and twelve. The sum realized from these lots is much greater than the proceeds of any one year since the organization of the department. Until within the last two years, it never anything like paid the necessary expenses of conducting the business. For the last year, under Mr. Scott's excellent management, it has been a source of profit to the department, while at the same time the aid it has rendered to citizens and strangers of New-York is beyond computation.

From the proceeds of the sales within the time named, there have been paid for salaries, $2,000; rent of offices, $200; deposited with Treasurer of Police Fund, $3,012 16. Total—$5,212 16.

AMOUNT OF PROPERTY RECOVERED.

The above, it must be understood, is but a small proportion of the value of the property recovered from thieves and burglars by the Police of this City. By far the greater part is returned to the rightful owners, upon an adjudication in a Criminal Court, or upon presentation of proper evidence to the department at Police Headquarters. Not many months since, one of our shrewdest detectives recovered stolen property to the amount of $250,000; all of which was transferred to the custody of the Property Clerk. Sufficient legal proof of ownership of these valuable goods, was soon after adduced and they were duly surrendered. This is but one instance, amongst many, which might be cited, all going to show the advantages derived from the system. Many a merchant and shopkeeper in our city, and many a stranger temporarily sojourning among us, can testify to the benefits they have received from it.

The present year there have been delivered to the "Property Clerk," 2,614 lots of goods. Of this number there have been delivered to the rightful owners, 1,530 lots. The value of the lots delivered amounts to the large sum of $296,270 53. There is a balance now on hand of about 700 lots, to be sold at public auction.

UNCLAIMED MONEY.

Mr. Scott has charge, at times, of large amounts of money which officers take from prisoners when they are arrested for theft or burglary. The most of this is returned to the rightful owners, but there is at present over $500 in cash unclaimed.

THE BUSINESS RAPIDLY INCREASING.

The business of this Department is increasing in a ratio which is disproportionate to the increase in the population of the City. From 1857, when the present system was established, up to the Spring of 1861, the proceeds of the sales did not begin to pay the necessary expenses. Now it is not only self sustaining, but as above remarked, it is a source of considerable revenue to the Police Fund. During the four years, from 1857 to 1861, there were delivered at the office 1,055 lots of goods. Since 1861, to the present time, there have been delivered 5,270 lots of goods, of which 2,614 have been delivered the past year. This last amount, as will be seen, is more than double the number received during the whole four years immediately succeeding the founding of that department.

THE WAY STOLEN PROPERTY WAS FORMERLY DISPOSED OF.

Previous to 1857, when this department was established, stolen goods were disposed of in a very different manner from what they are at present. Sometimes the goods were delivered to the clerks of those Police Courts, before which the accused persons were arraigned, but more frequently the captains or sergeants of the several precincts took charge of them when brought to the Station-houses by the officers who arrested the offenders. Necessarily, by this arrangement, comparatively a very small quantity of the property could ever be returned to the rightful owners, and still less was realized from the sales of unclaimed goods. The public will therefore see the necessity that existed for initiating the system which at present prevails in this City.

The Detention of the New-Orleans Steamers.

IMPORTANT ARRESTS AND SEIZURE OF CONTRABAND GOODS.

The detention of the New-Orleans steamer *George Cromwell*, which was to have sailed Thursday morning, the discovery of contraband goods on board, and the arrest of parties supposed to be implicated in the affair, has caused a good deal of excitement in this City. The parties arrested are still in the custody of the United States Marshal, who declines to give their names, or any particulars relative to the affair, beyond what have already been published. It is said that there are other parties implicated besides those already arrested, and a desire to secure their arrest, is given as a reason for withholding further information at present. The members of the firm in Cortlandt-street, at whose warehouse the contraband goods seized on board the *George Cromwell* were packed, are in custody, and their house has been taken possession of by the Deputy Surveyor of the Port. It is reported that other parties were arrested yesterday in connection with the affair, but their names were not made public. The United States Marshal continues to make rigid search of the passengers of all steamers leaving the port. Yesterday morning the steamer *Morning Star*, hence for Havana, was searched before sailing, and a large number of pistols and knives, with a quantity of powder, was taken from the passengers and deposited in the office of the Marshal. The Government is determined that there shall be no more piratical seizures of steamers leaving this port, like that of the *Chesapeake*, and they are also determined that the contraband trade with the rebels which has been carried on so extensively from this port shall cease. The present action of the Government may seem unnecessarily energetic, and even in some cases harsh, but when the public come to be made acquainted with facts which have recently come to the knowledge of the Government with regard to the hellish designs of the rebels and Secessionists in our midst, they will be more likely to accuse the Government of negligence and undue leniency.

The New-England Relief Association.

PATRIOTIC RE-UNION—SPEECHES BY JAMES T. BRADY, HENRY WARD BEECHER AND OTHERS.

The gathering at the Academy of Music last night of the soldiers' friends was a triumphant success. The programme was fully carried out. The speeches were excellent and appropriate, the music was good, and the object of the meeting one that commends itself to the heart of every citizen of New-York. Among the prominent gentlemen who appeared on the stage were Major-Gen. John A. Dix, Brig.-Gen. Stannard, Judge Sutherland, Judge Brady, Dr. Osgood, Judge Davies, Col. Howe, Wm. M. Evarts, and John A. Kennedy, Esq.

James T. Brady was called to preside. On taking the chair he said:

Ladies and Gentlemen—I return thanks for the great honor of being called to preside over you this evening. It is with satisfaction that I accept it. I regret that the eminent gentleman who was requested to be present this evening was compelled to decline. Mr. Brady then read a letter from Gen. Scott, regretting that his age and infirmities obliged him to refuse all invitations to public meetings. At the mention of the old hero's name the audience cheered enthusiastically, and it was some minutes before the Chairman could proceed. He said the worst always came first, and he would detain them no longer, but introduce to them a gentleman of whom they had heard at least—a gentleman who had been represented in *Punch* as holding a spoon to the ear of the British Lion, and had himself said that if he had held it to the mouth of the beast it would have satisfied him.

He then introduced Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.

MR. BEECHER'S ADDRESS.

The reverend gentleman said:

Nothing could have brought me here to-night with the ministers' working-day before me, but the excellency of the cause that has brought us together. The gentlemen of the Committee who had induced him to speak this evening, had offered a bribe—a bribe of thousands of dollars—in each one of which he saw the balm, the salve, the cordial for some poor sick or wounded soldier of the nation. Never had a Christmas day dawned brighter than the one just past, and now, as it were, in the midst of our festivities, we were gathered here to-night, while our brethren were hutted on the banks of the Rappahannock or in the Southwest, we had come to remember their wants. And we had cause to congratulate ourselves this Christmas in looking around upon the scene of conflict. Prof. Rogers, of Glasgow, had prepared a map that had caused the speaker some astonishment. It was a map showing the progress of the reduction of the rebellious States. Looking upon that, it appeared that no less than two-thirds of the area of the States originally seceding had been recovered. Now, if we had done this much in two years with the imperfect organizations and appliances that we had, what could we not hope to do with the increased means now at our disposal, and with all the benefits of a past experience? Where in the history of the rebellion could you point to one single substantial success that they had achieved? What single acquisition had they made and kept? They had developed an enemy unparalleled; they had shown no lack of courage or endurance, and as they were to come back into the Union again he was glad of it. [Applause and laughter.] But point out what they had gained and held on to. Forts, towns and cities they had lost, but never regained. Look at the great exhaustion produced by the war in men, in money, in material. Of the condition of the South we had pretty accurate knowledge. It was not that they had to eat corn-bread, not that they had to wear homespun; it was the exhaustion of men, horses, cattle, money, railroad stock and material, that could not be replaced. How is it at the North? Has the population decreased? He was afraid sometimes that it was too numerous. It was a shame in many cases, to see robust, healthy young men in places that might be filled to more advantage by women. Beside, we were receiving immigration of fresh blood, and he believed in those immigrants who had enterprise enough to leave their homes and seek our shores. Our danger was not want, but luxury, not a deficiency, but a superabundance. What was the relative weariness of the two sections in regard to the war? All accounts concur in representing the South as heartily tired of it, but the late elections show how the North feels. We do want peace, an enduring one, on a solid basis, not such an one as some here call for, which is not peace but a mask with war behind it. [Great applause.] All gold had its dross; it was not found pure. All wheat had its chaff and straw. The North had its chaff and dross. There are still men who have learned nothing from the war, but it has its gold. There are men who, to-day, say the Southern States must come back free States, who, three years ago, scoffed and derided freedom, and would never entertain the idea that Slavery could be interfered with. There are duties imposed upon us, and it is incumbent upon us to meet them. We covet the blessings of a free Government, and we are apt to be impatient of its restraints. There are men and papers who still repeat and maintain that the solution of the whole question is found in this easy proposition. If the fire-eaters of the South and the Abolitionists of the North would all be hung the war would end immediately." It was time that such nonsense should cease. Let us settle our affairs upon principles—not upon wornout prejudices. [Applause.] He thanked God he lived to see slaves called men, that they were in arms to refute the doctrine of Judge Taney, "that a negro had no rights which a white man was bound to respect; that they stood now with swords in their hands to hew their way to manhood.

The reverend speaker spoke warmly in favor of the draft, and closed with a characteristic eulogy of New-England and her institutions. He sat down amidst great applause.

Miss Clara Louise Kellogg followed with a song, "O Lucia di Quest anima," which was received with the rapturous plaudits of the audience. She was recalled, and sang "Home, Sweet Home."

The Chairman read a letter from Gov. Andrews, of Massachusetts, and the grand ceremony of the evening took place. This was the presentation by the State of Massachusetts, of a magnificent stand of colors to the New-England Relief Association. As the colors were brought upon the stage, the band played the national airs, and the vast audience rose by simultaneous impulse, cheering, waving hats and handkerchiefs, offering to the old flag a demonstration unequaled in its spontaneous enthusiasm. Col. Frank Howe presented the colors as the agent of the State of Massachusetts, to Hon. Wm. M. Evarts, the President of the Association. In presenting them, Col. Howe said:

COL. HOWE'S SPEECH.

Mr. President: I have been instructed by the Governor of Massachusetts, to present to the Sons and Daughters of New-England these flags, in acknowledgement of their faithful service to the Old Commonwealth, and to her young men gone out to do battle for the great principles she has cherished since the foundation of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay. [Applause.]

Mr. President: The flag of Massachusetts speaks to us, of youth, of home, of glorious anchestry, of high example and lofty achievement. But this, the flag of the Union, awakens prouder memories, recalls more famous deeds. Between the dark days of 1777, and the present hour, how splendid the progress, how surprising the contrast. The banner of our revolution has become the emblem of unsurpassed national power. There is no sea on which its colors have not floated, no port whose commerce has not been invigorated by its approach. And in that great struggle which to-day absorbs our souls and develops to unlooked for proportions our national strength it has waved over deeds of arms which have excited the admiration of the world.

Mr. President: When Gov. Andrew joined in his recognition of our services the flag of Massachusetts and the flag of the Union, he symbolized the crowning principle of our political system. These flags can never be separated; wherever, in prosperity or adversity, the standard of the Union goes, there the banner of Massachusetts will steadfastly follow. When the Fathers of our Republic adopted what we proudly called the American Flag, they set the stars there as a new constellation." In that galaxy of glory, Massachusetts has her place, and there she will shine forever. And as the ages grow old, and the cluster of the American Union streams down upon uncounted generations of happy freemen, the star of the old Bay State will mingle her rays in that benignant splendor.

Mr. Evarts, in receiving the flag, made some most eloquent remarks, and after a song from S. C. Campbell, of Bryant's Minstrels, the entertainment ended, and the audience went home well pleased with the enjoyments of the evening.

Assignment of Police Justices.

The newly-elected Police Justices, who will take their seats on Saturday next, have been assigned as follows:

First District—(Toombs.)—Joseph Dowling and Edward Hogan.

Second District—(Jefferson Market.)—Wm. Dodge and Thomas A. Ledwith.

Third District—(Essex Market.)—Edward J. Shandley and William Mansfield.

Fourth District—(Yorkville.)—Michael Connolly and Richard Kelly.

Arrival of the Fortieth New-York Volunteers, (Mozart.)

The Fortieth Regiment New-York Volunteers, (Mozart,) Col. Egan, left Brandy Station, Va., yesterday morning, and will arrive here, it is expected, to-morrow morning—certainly on Tuesday. The regiment has reënlisted for three years, and comes home on a furlough of thirty days. It has seen much service, and sustained heavy loss. Since going into the field, five regiments have been consolidated with it, but its own officers have been retained. At present, Col. Egan is acting Brigadier-General under Birney. The regiment has been and is considered one of the very best in the field. The Colonel returns with them as veterans, and a reception is in contemplation. One, and a handsome one too, should be given them.

NAVAL.

Launch of the Iron-Clad Dictator.

IMMENSE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE—DESCRIPTION OF THE VESSEL, ETC.

The Ericsson iron-clad *Dictator* was launched Saturday morning from the Delamater Iron Works at the foot of Thirteenth-street. No less than 15,000 persons were present, notwithstanding the announcement that no tickets would be issued, and no admission granted. Among those present we noticed Asst.-Sec. of the Navy Fox, Admiral Gregory, Commodore Stoker, Capt. Rhind, of the *Keokuk*, Chief Engineers Stimers, Robie and Lamton of the *Puritan*, Capt. Worden of the *Monitor*, his Honor Mayor Gunther, some French and Russian naval officers, and many others. At 9 o'clock the tide began to fall, at 9½ it was flood-tide. Only two ladies—Miss Delamater, the daughter of the constructor of the vessel, and her friend—remained on the vessel while she was launched. The greatest enthusiasm was evinced by those present, shouts and cheers being given with vigor. Among the crowd assembled on board of the ship was to be seen Capt. John Ericsson, the inventor of iron-clads. His presence on such an occasion was new, as he hardly ever witnessed a launch or a trial trip. No small amount of curiosity was created among the favored few when he was pointed out. He appeared to be perfectly ubiquitous during the preparations—now at one end of the vessel, now at the other, superintending, directing, ordering. Mrs. Griswold, who was to have christened the vessel, arrived too late, and just as the vessel was leaving the ways, one of the operatives of the works smashed a bottle of wine across her bow, and gave her the name of the *Dictator*.

The launch was as successful as ever witnessed by our reporter. The workmen knocked away the blocks until within about 50 feet from her stern, and at 9½ o'clock the vessel of her own accord dashed into the water at an accelerated speed from the immense weight and the steep inclination of the ways. The opinion was prevalent that her 10½ inches of armor and her heavy armament would enable her to prove herself the dictator of the ocean.

DESCRIPTION OF THE VESSEL.

The iron-clad *Dictator*, based upon the principles of the first monitor, is different so far as relates to capacity, speed, seaworthiness and impenetrability, to any armored vessel ever built in our country, or that is now being constructed, except its consort the *Puritan*. Some additional facts in relation to this vessel will be of general interest. The extreme length of the *Dictator*, over all, is 314 feet; its aft overhang being 31 feet, and forward overhang 13, leaving 260 feet between perpendiculars; extreme breadth 50, and depth 22½ feet. The hull, in sides and frame, is constructed of iron; the water-lines are easy and the model good. The armor shelf extends outside of the hull 4 feet on each side, and is prodigiously strong. An idea of its impenetrable character will be derived from the following account of its construction: The outside is covered with six one-inch plates of iron fastened in the most substantial manner, and inside of this are three feet of oak timber and an armor lining formed of 4½ inch bars extending all around. The armor shelf, therefore, consists of 10½ inches in thickness of iron, and three feet of timber, and between the metal and timber is interspersed a thick layer of felting. No gun yet fabricated can project a shot that will pierce this armor jacket. The keel plate of the *Dictator* is of 1-inch plate, the side-plates ⅝-inch, and the frame of double angle-iron, 6 by 4 inches. The interior is divided into several watertight compartments by plate bulkheads, and the space forward of the third bulkhead below will be used for coal bunkers, through the middle of which will be a railway to carry the fuel to the boilers. The deck beams are of kyanized oak, and all the material employed in the construction of this great war-ship appears to be of the best quality. Two engines, each having a cylinder of 100 inches in diameter and four feet stroke, will be employed to drive the screw, which is four-bladed, and 21¾ feet in diameter, and of 34 feet pitch. Steam, which is the moving force, will be supplied from six large boilers, capable of furnishing 5,000 horse power to the engines, and it is reasonably expected that the *Dictator* will have a high speed. The boilers have 56 furnaces and an aggregate grate surface of 1,100 feet. Allowing 12 pounds of coal per square foot of grate surface, the vessel will require at the least 175 tons of coal per day, of 24 hours, steaming at full speed. What piston speed will be obtained from the engines remains to be seen. As the vessel is furnished with a strong bow, its speed, strength, and masts will render it a most efficient and massive ram. It is to be provided with one revolving turret for carrying two of the most formidable guns with which it can be furnished; and it will be as impenetrable to shot of the most powerful guns as the solid rock of Gibraltar. The inside diameter of the turret is 24 feet in the clear; a turret directly inclosing this will be formed of six thicknesses of inch plate, riveted together; and over it and outside of this will be another turret, forming a sleeve, consisting of seven thicknesses of inch plates riveted together, and between these two circular shields, solid hoops or bars, five inches in thickness, will be packed and fastened together securely, the whole forming one great revolving iron tower eighteen inches in thickness, 27 feet in diameter, and weighing about 200 tons. The design of the *Dictator*, the care bestowed upon its construction, and the excellent workmanship displayed upon every part of the hull and machinery, will render this vessel a credit and a powerful defence to our country. Every effort is being made to advance the finishing stroke as rapidly as possible, and the vessel will soon be reported to the Navy Department ready for service.

ARRIVAL OF THE U. S. STEAMER GRAND GULF.

The United States steamer *Grand Gulf*, Commander Geo. M. Ransom, arrived at the Navy-yard this afternoon from a cruise in search of the *Chesapeake*, which she doubtless would have captured had she seen her.

The *Grand Gulf* has experienced very heavy weather, having been in a hurricane in the Gulf Stream for 24 hours; the seas at times, when the ship plunged heavily, being as high as the foreyard.

She has proved herself a splendid sea-boat, and has exceeded the most sanguine hopes of her officers, and is a credit to her builders, Messrs. C. & R. Poillon, from whom she was purchased by the navy agent. The following is a list of her officers: Commander, George M. Ransom; Lieut. and Ex-officer, Frederick Rogers; Act.-Asst. Surgeon, Geo. B. Higginbottom; Act.-Asst. Paymaster, Edward B. Southworth; Acting Ensigns, Charles H. Frisbie, John Bazle, Chas. H. Cadien, Hans J. Ispen; Act. Gunner, B. C. Betts; Act. Second Engineers, Geo. W. Shank, (in charge,) Campbell McEwen; Act. Third do., Samuel N. Stillings, Joel M. Wheeler, Benj. James; Act. Master's Mates, James Courtney, H. B. Cleaves, Thos. Mason; Commander's Clerk, Wm. Ahern; Paymaster's do., Albert B. Gillett.

Fight Between Morrissey and Sheehan.

EXCITEMENT AMONG THE SPORTINGMEN—BOTH ARRESTED AND LOCKED UP.

Last evening intense excitement was created in sporting circles, and no little among the public at large, by a report of a desperate encounter between John Morrissey, known the country over, and Andy Sheehan, of considerable Metropolitan fame. The latter has been a politician of some note, a sporting man of some degree, and is a finely built and fine looking specimen of masculinity.

It is stated that John Morrissey some time since befriended Sheehan, but that latterly the latter has forgotten his obligations and lost no opportunity of voluminously abusing the former. On Christmas night the two met at Hoyt's, Broadway and Great Jones-street, Sheehan coming in when Morrissey and his friends were making liberal acquaintance with Heidsick and Green Seal. He did not interfere with the progressing intimacy, but was invited to drink, declining on the score of a hearty Christmas dinner. Morrissey thereupon approached him with the query as to who asked him to drink, to which he responded, significantly, a *gentleman*. Thereupon Morrissey struck him; thereupon Sheehan struck back, and thereupon an encounter ensued between two powerful and courageous men. The struggle—strike and rough and tumble—lasted but a short time, and with but little injury to either, was put an end to by outsiders. Of course, bitter ill-will was engendered. On the night referred to, Morrissey was under the influence of too liberal living during the day, and on this occasion he, it is said, was to blame.

Last evening, about 7 o'clock, Morrissey was in Florence's, at the corner of Broadway and Houston-street, when Sheehan came in. The latter at once commenced a most violent and bitter abuse of Morrissey, applying to him the vilest, most opprobrious and angering epithets and taunts. Morrissey told him this was no place for notoriety; if he wanted a quarrel they could settle it quietly, and invited him out to take a carriage and drive together to some place where the settlement could be had. To this Sheehan assented and the two left the saloon on the Broadway side. No sooner had they reached the walk than Sheehan struck Morrissey, and on the instant a terrific fight ensued. Sheehan is considered, amateurly, a scienced man; he is nearly as large as Morrissey, and their class gathered around in intensest excitement. Sheehan was terribly punished, and had only succeeded in scratching Morrissey's nose, when Officer William Sminck, of the Eighth Precinct, rushed into the crowd. He is a little man, but full of "pluck." He seized the combatants, succeeded in separating and arresting them; he was assailed by the friends of Sheehan—Morrissey appeared to have none present—who assaulted him and attempted a rescue. Morrissey at once surrendered and was ready to accompany the officer; Sheehan and his friends were obstreperous, but the gallant Sminck held to his man, and soon received aid in Officer McCormick, from the Eighth, and another officer from the Fourteenth. The parties were taken to the Eighth Precinct; Sergeant Jas. W. O'Connor was in charge, and, notwithstanding the influences for their release, he ordered them to be at once locked up on the charge of Officer Sminck. He neither desired parley or allowed it, and so down they went to the cells. The conduct of Sheehan in the Station-house, was that of a man beside himself; his abuse of Morrissey, who acted, from the moment of his arrest, becomingly, was extravagant in its bitterness, and in a precinct where much of this kind of talk is heard, his exceeded any. Morrissey made no response. On the arrival of Capt DeCamp, the prompt and commendable action of his Sergeant, O'Connor, was fully approved. But he was beset by ex-United States officers, political Judges, and innumerable "influences" for the release "over night" of Sheehan. It was of no avail; all parties were told that the law in this, as in less notable cases, not only must but *should* take its course; that Mr. Sheehan, as well as Mr. Morrissey, neither could or should be an exception to the rule, and that all the ex-officers, political Judges, would-be-influence-people amounted to just nothing at all, and might as well subside into nobodys. They went off to hunt up somebody who *had* influence, but at last accounts Capt. De Camp and Sergt. O'Connor held the keys.

Sheehan was quite badly punished in the fight, and his face presented a woeful aspect. Morrissey was uninjured, save by a nose scratch.

The report prevalent last night that the affray occurred in Florence's is a mistake. The parties had left the establishment, and were on Broadway. The proprietor of this establishment never has allowed and never will allow any such scenes in it, and on this occasion at the first intimation of disturbance, he took measures to prevent it.

Too much credit cannot be awarded officer Sminck for his courage on the occasion. He was all alone, it would have taken two of him to have made one of either of them, pound for pound; but his "plucky" spirit and determination to do his duty, not only induced the arrest, but in all probability prevented a serious result. He held his men—or rather man, for Morrissey at once yielded—against the cowardly assaults of outside parties. Such examples as the Eighth Precinct afforded last evening are not only noticeable, but worthy of commendation.

The examination will take place at Jefferson Market Police Court this morning. It is to be hoped that such a course will be taken, on the matter, as will prevent the realization of the rumors so rife last night, that "this is not the end of it."

The Death of Gen. Corcoran.

HIS BODY LYING IN STATE—THE FUNERAL TO TAKE PLACE TO-DAY.

During the whole of yesterday the Governor's Room, in the City Hall, was thronged with the friends and admirers of the late Gen. Michael Corcoran, anxious to take a final look of the deceased. The coffin, which is a handsome mahogany one, studded with silver nails, was draped with the Stars and Stripes and decorated with *immortelles*. On the lid was placed the General's sword, belt and hat, and it bore the following inscription:

"Gen. Michael Corcoran,
Died Dec. 22, 1863.
Aged 36 years."

This morning at 9 o'clock the remains will be taken to the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Mulberry-street, escorted by Co. A, Sixty-ninth regiment, which has been guarding the body since its arrival in the City, where High Mass for the repose of the deceased will be celebrated. After the services, the remains will again be borne to the City Hall, whence, at 1 o'clock, the public funeral will take place. The Twenty-second and Sixty-ninth regiments and the Fourth artillery will act as escort; the Common Council and several Benevolent Societies will join in the procession. The route will be as follows: Passing out of the west gate of the Park, up Broadway to Stuyvesant-street, to Tenth-street, through Tenth-street to the ferry, thence to Calvary Cemetery.

The following orders have been issued:

Headquarters Department of the East,
New-York City, Dec. 26, 1863.

General Orders No. 25.—The Major-General commanding directs that the flags at all the forts in the Harbor of New-York be displayed at half staff to-morrow, in commemoration of Brig.-Gen. Michael Corcoran, whose funeral will take place at the City Hall at 1 o'clock. Officers in the military service in this City are requested to be present in uniform.

The Major-General Commanding, in directing the performance of this painful duty, has great satisfaction in bearing testimony to Gen. Corcoran's patriotism, gallantry and devotion to duty during his service of nine months in the Department of Virginia under the Major-General's command. By order of Maj.-Gen. DIX.

D. T. Van Buren, Asst. Adjt.-Gen.

Official: Chas. Temple Dix, Major and A. D. C.

Headquarters Twenty-second Regiment,
N. G. S. N. Y., Co. G, New-York, Dec. 25.

Company Order, No. 26.—In conformity with general orders, this Company will assemble at headquarters, on Sunday, Dec. 27, at 11 o'clock A. M., in full uniform, with overcoat and white gloves, to parade on the occasion of the funeral ceremonies of Brig.-Gen. Corcoran.

By order of
Capt. HENRY E. HOWLAND.

Jas. W. Clark, First Sergeant.

GENERAL CITY NEWS.

A Woman Burned to Death.—Late on Friday evening last, the premises No. 52 Barrow-street were found to be on fire. The neighbors gave the alarm, and speedily forced open the door of the apartment whence the flames issued. Lying on the floor, completely enveloped in flame, they found Mrs. Hannon, a widow lady, aged about 65 years, the occupant of the room. She was burned in a shocking manner, there being scarcely a vestige of clothing on her person when she was discovered. When the fire was extinguished an examination was made, and life was found to be extinct. It appears that Mrs. Hannon was alone at the time her clothes ignited, and it is, therefore, impossible to say exactly how the accident occurred. There was a large fire in the grate, and it is the belief of those who found her that she fell asleep in her chair, and that sparks from the grate set her dress in flames. An inquest will be held on the body this morning.

A Mysterious Death.—About 9 o'clock on Friday evening, an unknown man was found by the Sixth Precinct Police, lying on the sidewalk at the corner of Bayard-street and the Bowery, in a state of insensibility. He was taken to the Station-house, where he died in a short time. When discovered, blood was flowing quite freely from one of his ears. Dr. Bouton made an external examination of the body yesterday afternoon, and he gives it as his opinion that the man's skull has been fractured. It was thought best to have a *post-mortem* in the case, and the inquest has, therefore, been postponed until to-day, at which time it is believed there will be some light thrown upon the cause of his death. The deceased was about 20 years of age, medium size, had dark curly hair and blue eyes. He was well dressed in dark clothes, new boots and black felt hat.

Christmas at the Girls' Lodging-house.—About forty young girls sat down Christmas to an excellent dinner, consisting of turkies, roast beef, mince pies, &c., &c., provided by the friends of that worthy Institution, located at No. 205 Canal-street. Among the visitors were Wm. A. Booth, B. J. Howland and A. Van Rensselaer, Trustees of the Children's Aid Society, who made very appropriate remarks. At the close of one of the speeches a loud rap was made at the door, and, on its being opened, "Santa Claus" made his appearance, well supplied with an assortment of dresses, hoods, shoes and other garments, which were distributed liberally among the girls; also a beautiful quilt was found in his possession, which was prepared by the girls of the house for Mr. Howland, and was received by him with unmistakable gratification.

Compliment to Capt. McGrath, of the Minnehaha.—On the arrival of the ship *Minnehaha*, from Londonderry, at this port, the passengers held a meeting, and united in an address of thanks to Capt. Patrick McGrath for his kindness and attention during the voyage, and of warm commendation of the skill and courage he evinced during the terrific gales and storms that were encountered. Rev. Mr. Dolan read the address, which was modestly and handsomely responded to by the Captain. On the passengers leaving the vessel, they individually bid him good-bye, expressing kind wishes for himself and his noble vessel.

River Items.—The Spanish war-steamer *Cormen* sailed yesterday from her moorings on the North River to Quarantine. The brig *Gen. Bailey*, scuttled some time since to save her from destruction by fire, was raised yesterday and towed to pier 53, North River. The Italian iron-clad *Re d'Italia*, took a short sail down the Bay yesterday. It was not her trial trip as has been stated. That took place some time since from Mr. N. H. Webb's ship-yard, at the foot of Sixth street, East River.

Death from Violence.—Mrs. Louisa Naunton, wife of Thomas Naunton, of No. 6 Mission-place, died yesterday afternoon, from the effects of violence committed upon her about five months ago by a young man named McGrath. It appears that deceased was stoned and beaten in a shocking manner, while she was trying to prevent McGrath from breaking the windows of her residence with brickbats. Coroner Wildey will hold an inquest this morning.

Theft of a Horse and Wagon.—John Nugent was arraigned yesterday before Justice Connelly, at the Tombs, on the complaint of Mr. Samuel Jones, of No. 18 West-street, who alleges that the accused stole a horse and wagon, valued at $75, while the same were standing in front of No. 23 Baxter-street. The wagon was found in Nugent's possession, and he was committed to answer, in default of $500 bail.

A Warning to Those Who Smoke in Their Sleep.—Late on Friday night, John Sutherland, residing at No. 509 Eleventh-avenue, was found in his apartments so badly burned that he is not expected to survive. From all the indications it appears that the victim fell asleep with a lighted pipe in his mouth, and while in that state the pipe fell and set his clothes on fire. He was taken to Bellevue Hospital.

Heavy Weather.—Several vessels arriving yesterday, report having encountered a series of storms, many of which were of the heaviest character. Fears are entertained for the safety of a number of small craft, now over due, from ports along the southern coast.

Navy-yard.—The keels of two immense war-vessels have been laid at the Navy-yard quite recently. Although the names have not yet been announced, still it is known they are to be of Indian derivation, and sufficiently long to puzzle the pronunciation of anybody.

Fatal Fall.—Coroner Wildey yesterday held an inquest on the body of John McCarthy, 30 years of age, who died at Bellevue Hospital from injuries received by falling down the hatchway of the ship *Emerald Isle*. A verdict of accidental death was rendered.

Arrival of Emigrants.—The following vessels reported at Castle Garden yesterday: Ship *John Bright*, Liverpool, 306 emigrants; steamer *Kangaroo*, Liverpool via Queenstown, 178; ship *Rhine*, London, 34.

Overhauled by Gunboats.—The steamer *Corsica*, which arrived yesterday from Havana, via Nassau, reports being boarded by U. S. gunboats on her outward and homeward bound passage.

Drowned.—A seaman, named Jackson, fell from the lighter *Eddy*, yesterday, while the vessel was lying at the dock near the foot of Oliver-street, and was drowned.

Religious Notice.—The Rev. James B. Dunn will preach at the rooms of the New-England Soldiers' Relief Association, 194 Broadway, at 3 o'clock this afternoon. The public are invited to attend.

BROOKLYN NEWS.

Fire.—About 3½ o'clock yesterday morning, a fire was discovered in an unoccupied house in Sixteenth-street, between Seventh and Eighth avenues, owned by Mr. Samuel Warbelton. The flames enveloped the entire structure, and the whole was consumed. Loss about $300. No insurance.

Taken to the Hospital.—A man, named Thomas Rush, residing at No. 92 Ryerson-street, was found on a Fulton Ferry boat, on Thursday night, in a state of exhaustion from the loss of blood. On arriving at the Brooklyn pier, it was discovered that he had been stabbed in the neck, and was bleeding profusely. He was so much exhausted that he was unable to speak. The Police conveyed him to the City Hospital.

Scalded.—John Coughlan was found lying on the sidewalk on the corner of Main and Water-streets, on Thursday night. His eyes presented the appearance of having been dreadfully scalded. He could give no account of himself, and was conveyed to the City Hospital.

[Advertisement.]

Herring's Patent Champion Fire-proof Safes, and Herring's new Patent Burglar-proof Safes, with Herring & Floyd's Patent Crystalized Iron—the only material which cannot be drilled—at No. 251 Broadway, New-York.

Passengers Sailed.

Dec. 27—*In steamship City of Washington, for Liverpool*—Miss Ellen Jones, Mrs. B. Entivistle, B. Rodrigues, Mr. Lafond, Eugene Meeks, Ramon Zanatte, Thos. Neil, Richard Ecclis, Thomas Showell, R. S. Garratt, George A. Hearn, Jr., James Stanbury, John Ross, M. Hettinger, Thomas J. Martin, Capt. H. W. Fletcher, Capt. M. Ward, Wm Benjamin, George Barker, St. John Constant, E. La Rue, Henry Randolph, and others in the steerage.

Passengers Arrived.

In steamship Corsica, from Nassau and Havana—Mrs. Gilber, Mrs. Carr, E. Droega, Messrs. Hitch, F. F. Wilder, C. Buys, T. Reddington, P. Stewart, Marshall, J. Daly, J. Carroll, W. H. Pearce, Mrs. B. Scully, Mrs. Pickernell, Mrs. Schlerrow, Mrs. Haggeth, son and servant, E. Le Messerier, C. England, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Smith, N. Davis, Mr. Stellheimer, E. Gomez, E. Learned, H. Thomas, Seager, G. Adams, M. Meikle, J. M. Castegon, Mrs. N. Deproute and son, Mr. Knipping, C. Andrew, C. Gray, J. Rogers, G. Wellington, James Gordon, James Heller, O. A. Moses, James Rice, Wm. Watson, W. H. Wyatt, E. Green, E. Thode, Mr. Arthur, D. Fleming, A. Blakey, T. Jobson, J. H. Bache, Dr. Rudder, E. H. Haswell, T. Wolfe, Geo. Miller, Mr. Richter, Olmstead, D. Stewart, C. Randle and servant, W. Sheppard, W. Yelverton, Styles, E. L. Cummins, A. J. Howell, Preval, N. Grabsowski, F. Skinner, James Mitchell, Mr Evens, C. B. Miller, H. Murray, A. Lewis, L. J. Levy, W. Bench, E. Bennett. Total, 94.

In steamship George Washington, from New-Orleans—Col. C. K. Hawkes, Capt. H. H. Moore, 133d New-York Vols.; Capt. James D. Hawes, 133d New-York Vols.; Geo. O. Stevens; Geo. Dudley Waring and servant, R. R. Montgomery and son, Capt. James Grey, B. E. Castendyke, S. Jones, J. W. Perego, T. D. Clearman, Fred. E. Smith, E. A. Witters, F. H. Knopp, J. F. Kranz, J. C. Davidson, O. L. F. Weise, J. Scherbarth, F. H. Steil, D. Folsom, J. J. Levy, S. Bloom, C. Espinolia, Dr. C. Reincke, Jno. Jackson, Mrs. E. Broas, Miss Biesenbach, Miss C. Mayer, Mrs. Bloom, 2 children and servant, Miss L. Leweson, M. Koenigheim, lady and 2 children, H. Mayer, lady, child and servant.

MINIATURE ALMANAC—THIS DAY.
Sun rises.... 7 23 | Sun sets..... 4 39 | Moon rises. 7 24
HIGH WATER—THIS DAY.
Sandy Hook. 8 59 | Gov. Island.. 9 48 | Hell Gate.. 11 10

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

NEW-YORK....SATURDAY, Dec. 26.

Cleared.

Steamship City of Washington, (Br.,) Brooks, Liverpool, John G. Dale.

Ships Cynosure, (Br.,) Oram, Liverpool, Tapscott, Bros. & Co.; Adler, (Brem.,) Henke, Bremen, Unkert & Co.

Barks Castleton, (Br.,) Hill Melbourne, Mailler, Lord & Quereau; Kathleen, (Br.,) Roberts, Falmouth, H. J. & C. A. De Wolf; Clarinda, (Ital.,) Avegno, Cadiz, Holmboe & Balchen.

Brig Bachelor, (Br.,) Waycott, Trinidad, John Boynton's Sons.

Schooners John M. Parker, King, Brighton, H. S. Rackett & Son; E. T. Scott, Baker, Providence, H. S. Rackett & Son; Ridgewood, Wakes, Alexandria, Van Brunt & Slaght; J. R. Franklin, Auston, Great Egg Harbor, T. G. Benton's Son; C. L. Scull, Scull, Great Egg Harbor, T. G. Benton's Son; H. M. Haines, Blackman, Great Egg Harbor, T. G. Benton's Son; George F. Brown, Gedney, New-Haven, H. S. Rackett & Son; F. P. Simpson, Ellis, Port Royal, N. L. McCready & Co.; Pearl, Lamb, Philadelphia, J. W. McKee; Snow Flake, Green, Washington, Van Brunt & Slaght; L. A. Johnson, Culver, Washington, B. F. Small & Co.; N. Chase, Doane, Washington, B. F. Small & Co.

Sloop Phenix, Shepard, Saybrook, H. S. Rackett & Son.

Arrived.

U. S. mail steamship George Washington, E. V. Gager, commanding, New-Orleans 19st inst., with mdse., mails, mdse. and passengers to H. B. Cromwell & Co. 21st inst., 9 A. M., Tortugas bearing N., was boarded by U. S. gunboat Clyde. On the 23d and 24th, experienced strong N. E. gales.

U. S. steam transport Mississippi, Talbot, New-Orleans Dec. 18, and the Bar 19th inst., with sugar and cotton to U. S. Assistant Quartermaster. Dec. 24, at 8 A. M., lat. 27 55, lon. 79 47, exchanged signals with steamship Yazoo, hence for New-Orleans. Dec. 23, 150 miles S. of Hatteras, encountered a heavy gale from N. and N. E., which continued until Friday. Dec. 25, saw a large side-wheel steamer, supposed to be Granada, strg. S.

Steamship Corsica, (Br.,) Le Messurier, Havana Dec. 19, and Nassau 21st, with mdse. and passengers to E. Cunard.

Steamship Kangaroo, (Br.,) Bridgeman, Liverpool Dec. 12, via Queenstown 14th, at 11:20 A. M., with mdse and 178 passengers to John G. Dale.

U. S. steam transport Daniel Webster, Sherman, Washington, D. C., in ballast to U. S. Assistant Quartermaster.

Steamship Atlantic, Maury, Aspinwall Dec. 16, at 1 P. M., with mdse. to Panama Railroad Co.

U. S. steamer Grand Gulf, Commander Geo. M. Ransom, from a cruise.

U. S. steam transport Haze, Pennington, Washington, D. C., in ballast to U. S. Assistant Quartermaster.

U. S. steam transport City of Richmond, Kelly, Washington, D. C. to U. S. Assistant Quartermaster.

Steamer Parkersburgh, Whitehead, Portland, with mdse and passengers to H. B. Cromwell & Co.

Steamer Westchester, Walton, Providence, with mdse. to E. Bynner.

Steamer Falcon, Jones, Providence, with mdse. to E. Bynner.

Steamer Martha Stevens, Chance, Baltimore, with mdse. to Wm. Dalzell.

Steamer Salvor, Mott, Washington, with mdse. to J. Hand.

Brig Mount Vernon, (of Kingston, Jam.,) Warner, Mayaguez, P. R., Dec. 4, and Grand Turk, T. I., Dec. 12, with salt to Kirkland & Von Sachs. Sld. in co. from Grand Turk with Br. brig Union, for New-York. Left no vessels at either port.

Schr. Mary Jane, (of St. Johns, N. F.,) 16 ds., with fish to Siffken & Ironsides.

Schr. Anita Damon, Long, Georgetown, D. C., for Boston.

Schr. I. H. Day, Chase, Providence.

Schr. J. B. Johnson, Smith, Providence.

Schr. M. A. Shropshire, Buckelwright, Providence.

Schr. Fly, Cheeseman, Providence.

Schr. Mary Price, Blizzard, Wilmington, Del.

Schr. Armadillo, Chase, New-Bedford, with barley.

WIND—Sunset, W. S. W., very light.

Sailed.

Dec. 26—Barks Snaresbrook, (Br.,) Queen Victoria, (Br.,) Aid, (Br.,) Frank Lovitt, (Br.)

Brig North Point.

Schr. Conrad Fox.

By Telegraph.

BOSTON, Dec. 26.—Arr. brig C. B. Allen, from Belize, Honduras. Brig Edward, Thomson, from St. Martins and St. Thomas.

Domestic Ports.

HOLMES HOLE, Dec. 23—Arr. brig Emma Ives, Matanzas for Portland; schrs. Eprdell Hart, New-Orleans, for Boston; Maria Noss, Wilmington, Del., for Boston; Marion W. Gould, Machias, for New-York; Clare, (before reported,) is now on the marine railway. The extent of damage is not yet ascertained; a part of her keel is gone, and the oakum has worked out. A survey has been called to-day.

Dec. 24—Arr. brig Prosege, Havana, for Boston; schrs. Campbell, Soule, Baltimore, for Boston; Pavilion, Sawyer, Virginia, for Boston; Moonlight, Boston, for New-York.

Spoken, &c.

City of Baltimore—steamship, hence for Liverpool, Dec. 15, lat. 51 33, lon. 16 50.

Constellation—ship, bound E., exchanged signals with, Dec. 24, lat. 41 44, lon. 63 31.

Foreign Ports.

Aspinwall—Arr. Dec. 8, brigs Karnak, Pipham, New-York; 10th, Caroline, Harford, New-York; 12th, steamships St. Thomas, Peters, Liverpool; North Star, Jones, New-York; 14th, brigs Leviathan, Singer, New-York; Oravilla, Bracket, New-York; schr. Louisa, Forbes, Portabello; schr. Frith, Ricardo, Portabello; 15th, ship Lilla Mansfield, Page, New-York; 16th, steamship Crusader, Middleton, Liverpool; bark Our Union, Miller, New-York.

Sailed—Dec. 8, brig Bogota, Porter, New-York; steamships Time, Leeds, St. Thomas; 9th, Tamar, Walcot, San Juan; 10th, schr. Gabrielle, Robinson, ——; 10th, steamship Vinezuella, Watson, Liverpool; brig Scotland, Rollins, New-York; 12th, brig Windward, Randall, New-York.

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The greatest assortment of skates an skate fixing will be found at the FAMOUS
CENTRAL PARK SKATE EMPORIUM,
which is removed from Broadway to
NO. 36 HOWARD-ST., EAST OF BROADWAY.
Skates from 25 cents to $25, of all kinds, comprising a
SPLENDID ASSORTMENT of
MARSDEN'S, MOULSON'S, & other ENGLISH Skates,
PHILADELPHIA, and NEW-YORK CITY CLUB
SKATES.
and other AMERICAN and FOREIGN Skates
for LADIES, GENTS and CHILDREN,
SKATE BAGS, SHINNY STICKS, STRAPS,
and everything in the skating line in boundless variety.
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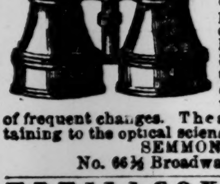
POWERFUL AND BRILLIANT DOUBLE GLASSES.



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Instruction given at residences, if required. Operators and machines sent into families.

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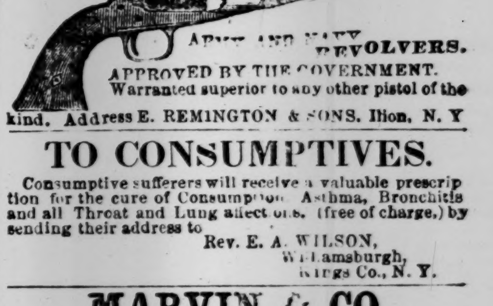

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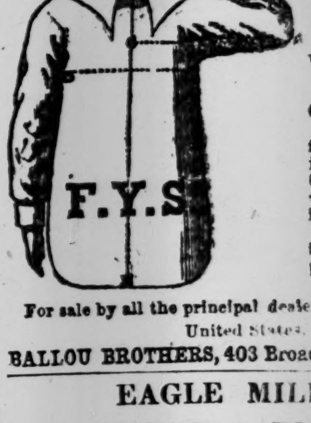
IN TEAS, COFFEE, WINES, AND ALL KINDS OF GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.
Flour, Fish; Raisins and Currants at 15 cents per pound; Citron and everything else used in every family; Butter, Cheese, Lard—all
CHEAP FOR CASH.
SUGARS—The largest assortment ever offered to the public in New-York. THOMAS R. AGNEW,
No. 260 Greenwich-st., and No. 89 Murray-st.

A SECRET WORTH KNOWING.—GO TO THOS. R. AGNEW'S, Nos. 260 Greenwich-st. and 89 Murray-st., and see the low price he is selling Teas, Coffee, Flour, Wines and everything else used in every family.



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TABER & PLACE,
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PEREGO'S
NAVY SHIRTS
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, AT LOW PRICES.
IRA PEREGO & SONS,
No. 136 Broadway, N. Y.

FOR SALE.—TWO STEAM BOILERS, ONE FLUE and one open, from eight to ten horse power, but little used. Apply to D. CLARKE, No. 643 Broadway.

FOR SALE OR TO LET.—THE STOCK AND fixtures of the Lace and Fancy Store, 643 Broadway, cor. of Bleecker-st. Possession about the 15th January. The store is acknowledged to be the best stand for business in the city. Apply to D. CLARKE, on the premises.

FOR THE HOLIDAYS.—BOUQUETS, BASkets, Rustic Stands, Hanging Baskets, &c., &c., for New-Year's Day, at D. CLARKE'S, No. 643 Broadway, corner Bleecker-st.

THE HOLIDAYS.—THE BEST PICTURES taken in oil or water colors are those taken at CLARK'S Union Gallery, No. 643 Broadway, corner of Bleecker-st. D. CLARKE.